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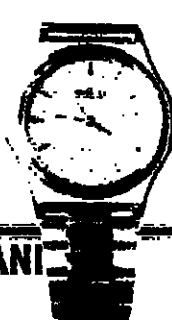
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ARAB TIMES

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1988

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Republican convention opens

NEW ORLEANS, Aug 15, (Agencies): George Bush said today that he has narrowed the list of candidates to run for vice-president but has not picked one. The Republican national convention that will nominate him as the party's presidential candidate formally opened.

"I think my choice will be widely accepted when I decide on who that choice is," Bush said today during a round of interviews on US television shows.

"I've not decided," Bush said when asked if he was leaning towards someone, Bush replied, "yes, of course but (towards) some people, I'd say."

Bush remained in Washington, giving the first day's convention spotlight to President Reagan, who planned to make an address to the delegates.

Comedian Yakov Smirnoff, a Soviet émigré who became an American citizen in 1986, led the delegates in the pledge of allegiance after Republican chairman Frank Fahrenkopf gavilled the convention in the Superdome to order.

Tonight, the first highlight of the convention will be a speech by Reagan, the last hurrah of the old warrior who hopes to inject some fire into Bush's campaign.

The convention delegates will formally nominate the party's candidates for President and vice-president in the November election. Reagan has served two terms and is barred from seeking a third. Bush has secured the nomination by winning the support of a majority of delegates during primary elections earlier this year.

Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis is the Democratic presidential candidate. Reagan has said he would campaign hard for Bush, who has been trailing Dukakis in most polls.

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بھارتی وزیر اعظم کی پاکستان کواریک آزاد قسطنطنیہ ریاست کے قیام کی تیاریاں شہر میں مظاہرے اسرائیلی غزہ میں کٹر گولیاں افغانستان سے نفث سویت اتحاد کے مکمل ریسبلکن پارٹی کا کنونشن شروع عراق ایران سرحدوں کا سروے لاہور نامہ اور سہیت

WEATHER

ORMAL summer weather with light to moderate north-westerly wind. High water: 2.30 am, 2.00 pm. Low water: 8.00 am, 8.30 pm. Sunrise: 5.16 am. Sunset: 6.27 pm. Maximum temperature recorded: 46°C (115°F). Minimum temperature recorded: 28°C (82°F). Maximum humidity recorded: 80 per cent. Minimum humidity recorded: 30 per cent. Maximum wind speed recorded: 10 per cent. Minimum wind speed recorded: 30 per cent.

Arafat will be head of new state

Palestinians to proclaim independence next month

CAIRO, Aug 15, (Agencies): The Palestine Liberation Organisation will proclaim the birth of an independent Palestinian state in the Israeli-occupied territories next month, with Jerusalem its capital and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat its head of state, Egypt's Middle East News Agency said today.

The agency, in a Cairo-dated dispatch, said it obtained a copy of the "independence document" calling for the establishment of a Palestinian state on territory allocated by a 1947 UN partition plan for an Arab state.

The agency said the provisional government of the new state will be prepared to open peace negotiations with Israel, presumably within the framework of an international conference on the Middle East peace.

The proclamation, MENA said, will be made by the leadership of the Palestinian uprising in

the occupied territories, acting on the PLO's behalf.

It will be made "at least one week" before the Palestinian National Council, or parliament-in-exile, holds an extraordinary session in Algiers next month.

Partition

The council is expected to meet in the second half of September to plot the PLO's future course following King Hussein's decision to break off links with the occupied West Bank.

The document, the agency said, calls for the "declaration in Jerusalem of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state within the partition boundaries approved by the UN Security Council in its resolution No. 181 of 1948."

"Its capital will be Jerusalem and its provisional government will have two parts, one in exile and the other on Palestinian soil," the agency quoted the document as saying.

The UN General Assembly passed a resolution in November 1947 recommending the partitioning of what was then the British-mandate territory of Palestine into two Arab and Jewish states. The plan was later endorsed by the Security Council.

According to the agency, the PLO document states that Arafat will be the head of state and Farouk Kaddoumi, chief of the PLO's political department, its foreign minister.

Missions

All members of the PLO's executive committee will be "considered" members of the new government. These include two radicals: George Habash, chief of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), and Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

The Palestinian National Council will be proclaimed the parliament of the new state. The PLO's offices in foreign capitals

will become diplomatic missions representing the new state, the agency quoted the document as saying.

The provisional government of the new state will have administrative and legislative bodies active in the occupied territories, with the former running such affairs as health, education, police, industry, agriculture and information, the agency said.

Discard

"The provisional government will declare, in the name of the PLO, its readiness to establish a delegation, including personalities from inside and outside the occupied lands, to open negotiations with the aim of reaching a final settlement with Israel," the agency quoted the document as saying.

In an earlier dispatch from Amman, the agency quoted a PLO source as saying Arafat will declare the birth of the new state in an address next month to the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France.

The agency said that after the proclamation of the new state, the residents of the occupied territories will be asked to discard their Israeli identity cards and obtain "Palestinian identity cards that will be issued by the provisional government."

The document quoted by the agency described the new state as a republic, with an elected President and a multi-party system, whose citizens are allowed all political and religious freedoms.

Meanwhile a delegation from the PLO arrived today for consultations with Egyptian officials on the PLO's options, including the establishment of a provisional government, following Jordan's disengagement from the West Bank.

The PLO delegation, which flew in from Amman, is led by Mahmoud Abbas, also known as Abu Mazen, a member of the PLO's executive committee. It (Continued on Page 2)

Gaza sealed after violent protests

EREZ CHECKPOINT, Occupied Gaza Strip, Aug 15, (AP): Israeli troops shot and killed a Palestinian in the West Bank today, hospital officials said, and the army confined 650,000 Arabs to their Gaza Strip homes after three days of violence.

Journalists were halted by soldiers at the Erez checkpoint at the entrance to the Gaza Strip. Army officers said knots of protesters set burning tyres along the road from the checkpoint to Gaza city.

The indefinite curfew was imposed following clashes in Gaza yesterday in which Israeli state-run radio said troops shot and wounded about 20 Palestinians. Arab reports put the figure at 25 wounded.

As a result, the 50,000 Arab workers from the Gaza Strip were unable to go to their jobs in Israel.

Checkpoint

A reporter saw nine Palestinians arrive at Erez checkpoint from Israel to return to their Gaza homes. The army arranged for taxis to pick them up.

"I'm married, and I have to go back," said a 37-year-old Palestinian from Khan Yunis refugee camp who would only identify himself as Salam.

It was the third time since the Palestinian uprising began Dec 9 that soldiers have sealed off the entire Gaza Strip, barring visitors and journalists.

The daily Haaretz quoted Arab sources as saying the army was going house-to-house and making arrests. Reports circulating at Erez checkpoint said soldiers in Gaza were carrying out extensive identity checks.

Curfew

Army officials declined to say how long the curfew would remain in force although rumours spread that it could be lengthy.

An Army spokesman who demanded anonymity said Gaza was calmer than it had been in the

early days of the intifada, Arabic for uprising.

The Gaza Strip was twice sealed off before, once when Palestinians staged "Land Day" protests March 30 and again on April 22 in advance of Israel's Independence Day celebrations.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the army had been given "shoot to kill" orders for dealing with demonstrators who threw firebombs. His statement came after six Israelis, including an eight-month-old infant, were burned by a firebomb yesterday. The infant was in moderate condition with burns on the face and arms.

In Gaza city today, witnesses said soldiers went door-to-door in some areas ordering residents to go out and paint over slogans on walls, take down Palestinian flags and clean up debris from demonstrations.

Some slogans said: "Strike and confrontation," "We will never kneel before the Zionists" and "Deportations and arrests will never scare us."

Journalists were stopped by soldiers at the Erez checkpoint leading into the Gaza Strip.

Demonstrations

Arab reporters and hospital officials said Jamal Odeh, 21, was shot through the heart today after night-long demonstrations at the Tulkarem refugee camp in the West Bank where youths set up roadblocks and burned tyres. His death brought the Palestinian casualty toll in the uprising to 255. Four Israelis have also died.

Palestinians attributed the outbreak in Gaza to the burning deaths of two Arab workers near Tel Aviv. Police said Jewish extremists may have torched a hut where three Arab builders slept near a construction site. No one has been arrested.

The Jerusalem Post, said the riots appeared to have caught the Army undermanned and reinforcements were expected to be sent to Gaza.

India celebrates Independence Day

Rajiv warns Pakistan against aiding Sikhs

NEW DELHI, Aug 15, (Agencies): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi warned Pakistan today against aiding Sikh insurgents in Punjab, saying "who do not wish to take action they might later regret."

In a 35-minute speech outdoors under heavy security on the 41st anniversary of India's independence, Rajiv did not name Pakistan but said Sikh insurgents were getting help from across the border.

Sikh radicals have been agitating since 1982 for an independent homeland in Punjab, which borders Pakistan. About 1,700 people have died in the violent campaign in Punjab so far this year. Rajiv has often accused Pakistan of giving arms and training to Sikh rebels, but he has not supplied any proof. Pakistan has denied the charge.

Security

Indian border guards shot and killed 11 Pakistanis yesterday when they attempted to slip across the border into Jammu and Kashmir state north of Punjab, authorities said.

At least 2,500 uniformed policemen were on duty as Rajiv delivered the annual Independence Day address at the 16th century Red Fort, according to a police official in charge of security measures.

Guests including cabinet ministers and foreign diplomats were frisked before the 40-minute ceremony. Sharpshooters were posted on tall buildings around the red sandstone fort.

Rajiv said the major tasks before India were to fight poverty and unemployment.

"We have to be ready to make any sacrifice," he said. "I am



Rajiv addresses the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort, in Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

willing to make any sacrifice for the welfare of the country."

He also called for nuclear disarmament, saying the resources used in weaponry could help in alleviating world poverty.

Rajiv attributed the achievement to the agriculture policies of his mother and grandfather. He said though the worst drought last year "slowed down economic development... it did not stop progress."

Rajiv cited some of the successes of his administration, including accords that settled agitations or insurgencies in Assam, Tripura, Mizoram and West Bengal states.

Rajiv said the government had "done a lot" to help the more than 270 million people living below the poverty line, but added that "still a lot has to be done."

"Another problem that India (Continued on Page 2)

Iraq co-operating fully with UN peacekeepers

BAGHDAD, Aug 15, (Reuters): Advance parties of Canadian military observers and signals experts arrived in Baghdad today as the United Nations assembled teams to monitor a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

Diplomats and UN officers said the Iraqi government had co-operated fully with efforts to get the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIMOG) in place for the formal end to the eight-year war on Saturday.

"Only one day after the ceasefire announcement (on Aug 8), the Iraqis had produced several white-painted vehicles for UN use," one diplomat said. "They are really moving fast."

Thirteen Canadian military observers flew into the Iraqi capital overnight and a UN officer said: "The first complete military observer contingent came today."

On the same flight were two men from Canada's 88th Signals unit, the first of 485 Canadians who will set up a communications network for the 24-nation UN ceasefire team.

Signals

A Canadian diplomat said the signals unit would send a second advance party tomorrow, with the main body due on Thursday. A group of 12 signallers earlier reported to have arrived was delayed by a hitch in transport arrangements, he said.

Military observers from Senegal were due to arrive in Baghdad late today and 11 Norwegian observers were expected tomorrow.

Officials from the Hungarian and Bangladesh embassies in Baghdad said 15 observers from each country were due in the

Iraqi capital within 24 hours. Most of the countries involved in the ceasefire force said their troops would be in the Gulf by Wednesday.

Yugoslav Major General Slavko Jovic, appointed to command the Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIMOG), is expected in Iraq tomorrow.

Appreciated

UN officials said on Friday that the peace force would have two main headquarters, one in Baghdad, the other in Tehran.

Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi today told visiting Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati that he appreciated the acceptance by Iran and Iraq of a ceasefire in the Gulf war.

Syria, also said it supported Tehran's acceptance of a Gulf war ceasefire.

In Cairo, a press report said that United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has informed Egypt that Iran is ready to release thousands of Egyptians it detained during the war with Iraq.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei urged the armed forces today to remain on alert because the diplomatic war with Iraq would be just as dangerous as the military one.

The Iranian news agency IRNA, quoted Khamenei as saying during a tour of the war fronts that Iraq had tried to portray Iran's acceptance of Security Council Resolution 598 a month ago as weakness.

"Everybody who sits at a negotiating table should rely on his military power or else he should not dare to negotiate," the agency quoted him as saying.

Iranian fishermen headed home

MANAMA, Aug 15, (AP): Five Iranian fishermen, rescued by the US Navy eight days ago from their drifting dinghy in the Gulf of Oman, were finally headed home today after an unexpected hopscotch tour of four warships.

US military sources said the five were to be turned over to Omani authorities at Ghat Island in the Strait of Hormuz, and then transferred to Iranian diplomatic officials' control.

The five were picked up on Aug 8 by the US missile cruiser Vincennes, and said they had spent eight days adrift after their fishing boat sank.

They were without food, and their water supply had run out. US military doctors said they were suffering from exposure, dehydration, and body rashes, and probably could not have survived another 24 hours.

The Vincennes mistakenly shot down an Iranian civilian jetliner.

When ordered on "another mission," according to US sources, it turned the five over to the missile cruiser Texas, which kept them aboard until they could be moved to the frigate Fanning.

From there, the five were shifted again to the missile destroyer Robinson, which was to take them to the Omani base in the Hormuz Strait.

The military sources, noting that the exchange took longer than anticipated to arrange, said the actual turnover was expected to take place late today.

Dehumanising Soviet women

MOSCOW, Aug 15, (UPI): A working mother told the Pravda newspaper in a letter published yesterday that Soviet industry dehumanises women.

Galina Loskutova, 47, wrote in to the Communist Party daily from a town near Chelyabinsk in the Ural mountain area of Siberia. She works as a pump operator at the Troitskaya district power station.

"After 15 years of working a three-shift system there," Loskutova says, "my stomach is wrecked... my kids grew up without me, for their mother was either working or sleeping it off after night shifts."

Because of the tremendous war losses among soldiers in World War II, women today comprise 52 per cent of the population of 286 million, and almost all work. Low Soviet salaries and high divorce rates also force women in to the workplace.

Loskutova condemned general living conditions. She said she wears men's boots and has trouble with food purchases.

"What leisure time have I?" Loskutova asked. "Washing, cleaning, cooking, dishes, redecorating. I can never remember doing any relaxing in the house."

Soviet industrial life is hard on women who find it next to impossible to remain feminine.

Loskutova appeals to the party newspaper to fight to improve the plight of ordinary Soviet women.

Lebanese troops placed on alert as polls date nears

BEIRUT, Aug 15, (Reuters): Lebanon today prepared a massive security operation for this week's presidential election as fears mounted of armed clashes and a plot to sabotage the poll.

Local media today said threats from the hardline Christian Lebanese Forces militia and an Army mobilisation had raised fears of a military showdown before the election.

All Army leave had been cancelled and troops were on standby in their barracks, they said.

"Concern is growing that the Army and the Lebanese Forces could come to blows in Christian areas. The situation is nearing exploding point and only American pressure on the Chris-

tians can stop that," said As Safir newspaper.

Officials said scores of heavily armed police and troops would seal off the area around Parliament on the Green Line where deputies on Thursday will elect a successor to President Amin Gemayel.

Escort

They said the troops and police would escort the 76 ageing deputies to prevent any attempt to stop them reaching the 11 am (0800 GMT) meeting at the building on the museum crossing between Muslim West and Christian East Beirut.

Acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss today had talks with Interior Minister Abdallah

Rassi, Communications Minister Joseph Hashem and Army commander Michel Aoun. Officials said they reviewed security for the election.

"The plan aims at ensuring that the election session takes place despite the threats," one official said.

The Lebanese Forces militia, fearing the election of a president prepared to crack down on its rule of a wide coastal strip north of Beirut, announced a major alert last week.

A top Christian official, Phalange Party leader George Saadeh, yesterday threatened to torpedo the poll if a president was imposed by foreign powers. Aoun, apparently in reaction

to the threats, put his 35,000 troops across Lebanon on alert.

A top Christian militia leader said that the militia might ask Christian deputies not to attend the session to prevent the election of a pro-Syrian president.

Christian hardliners are strongly opposed to Syria's strong influence in Lebanon which could allow it to swing the outcome of the poll.

Uri Lubrani, the co-ordinator of Israeli activities in southern Lebanon, told the Christian Voice of Lebanon radio station late yesterday that "it will be a great success," if the nation's next president is capable of manoeuvring among the country's various factions.

But Lubrani warned, "the

situation in Lebanon will stay unstable if Lebanese elect a president who would be a puppet for the Syrians."

At least four politicians have announced their candidacies but scores more are regarded by local media as contenders and have been shuttling between Beirut and Damascus to win Syrian support for their nomination.

The United States has been negotiating with Syria to smoothen the way for the election of president acceptable in all camps.

Christian and Muslim political sources said today that pro-Syrian former President Suleiman Franjeh and Aoun were regarded as the front-runners.



Two girls in traditional Afghan dresses look at the camera while Soviet troops stand to attention during a farewell ceremony shortly before leaving for the Soviet border. (Reuters wirephoto)

Burmese demand release of political prisoners

BANGKOK, Aug 15, (UPI): Anti-government groups peacefully demanded today the release of political prisoners and further concessions from the government following widespread unrest and violent last week, diplomats said.

Diplomats said the demonstrators sought more political and leadership changes since the resignation last Friday of President Sein Lwin. They also want the release of some 3,400 prisoners thought to have been arrested during the demonstrations that swept through the country last week.

"There have been scattered reports of peaceful gatherings and unconfirmed reports of a demonstration or two up-country," said a diplomat in Rangoon contacted by telephone from Bangkok.

The diplomat said there were

no reports of violence. Today's demonstrations did not disrupt the city, the diplomats said.

The government has moved carefully since Sein Lwin's resignation ended five days of violence that left hundreds dead and thousands wounded.

Burmese troops have executed and tortured rice farmers and other Shan tribespeople while waging a war to suppress insurgency among Burma's largest minority group, Amnesty International charged in a document received today.

The report was the second Amnesty document that the London-based human rights organisation says shows "a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights" by the Burmese military in trying to suppress minorities fighting for autonomy from the central government.

In recent days, Amnesty and

several other private foreign organisations have also expressed concern over arrests and killings of anti-government demonstrators in Burma.

The demonstrations were sparked by the naming last month of Sein Lwin as President and head of the only political party. Sein Lwin resigned last week, after 17 days in power.

The 25-page report said Shans interviewed by Amnesty described 46 alleged extrajudicial executions and 58 alleged cases of "torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment" in Burma's Shan state.

The information gathered, Amnesty said, also implicated soldiers of 10 Burmese infantry units as well as intelligence and police personnel. Most of the victims were said to be ordinary villagers suspected of co-operating with various insurgent groups.

One-child policy cuts China's population

BEIJING, Aug 15, (AP): China's one-child population policy has resulted in 104 million fewer births in the past decade, the state statistical bureau said today.

Bureau officials said reduced population growth in the 1978-87 period will save the state 1 trillion yuan (\$270 billion) in educational and other costs, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

China now has more than one billion people, one-fifth of the world's population. In 1978, shortly before the government initiated its policy of one child for each couple, the population stood at 962 million. In 1949, when the communist government took over, the nation had 542 million people.

The state statistic bureau said that as a result of China's family planning, the birth of the world's 3 billionth person in July 1987 was two years later than it would have been, and Asia's 3 billionth person, thought to have been born this summer, came four years later than anticipated.

Officials have recently acknowledged a relaxation of the one-child policy, with couples in rural areas allowed to try once to have a boy if their first child is a girl.

Sri Lankan soldier kills comrades

COLOMBO, Aug 15, (AP): A Sri Lankan Army corporal shot and killed two colleagues and escaped with an automatic weapon from a camp north of Colombo, a military official said today.

The official of the joint operations command, unidentified under briefing rules, also said five Tamils had been killed in the northern and eastern provinces since yesterday.

The official said Cpl. Madumma Bandara, a suspected member of the militant Sinhalese People's Liberation Front, shot and killed two corporals before escaping with a Chinese-made rifle.

Members of the militant Sinhalese organisation have vowed to kill supporters of an Indian-backed peace accord signed last year to try to end Tamil insurgency on the island nation, they claim too many Tamil demands have been conceded.

Nearly 500 people, including administrators and politicians, have been killed by the front since the accord was signed on July 29, 1987.

Sinhalese, who are mostly Buddhists, make up 75 per cent of Sri Lanka's population and control the military and government.

The Tamils comprise 18 per cent of the nation's 16 million people.

Hirohito remembers Japanese war dead

TOKYO, Aug 15, (UPI): At the stroke of noon and against a backdrop of the rising sun of the Japanese flag, a frail 87-year-old Emperor Hirohito led the nation in a minute of silent prayer for World War II dead and said, "my heart still aches."

Exactly 43 years earlier, the Japanese people heard the Emperor speak for the first time as he announced on radio the nation's surrender to Allied Forces ending World War II.

This year's memorial observance for the 3.1 million Japanese killed in the war mixed bitter memories with calls for world peace and concern voiced by major opposition parties of increasing Japanese military spending.

Controversy was stirred by the visit of at least six Prime Ministers Noboru Takeshita's 20 cabinet ministers to a Shinto shrine where Japanese war dead are entombed, including several World War II leaders who were hanged by the Allied powers as war criminals.

Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's visit to the Yasukuni shrine in 1985 — the first by a Prime Minister since the

war — sparked strong reaction by China and Korea, where the brutality of the Japanese military during the war is still a vivid memory.

Out of respect for the Asian neighbours once victimised by the Japanese military, Takeshita stayed away from the shrine but was unsuccessful in efforts to keep other cabinet members from going.

Also visiting the shrine, which contains the remains of executed wartime Prime Minister and general Teruo Tojo, was a former top cabinet minister who created an uproar earlier this year with his insistence Japan was not the aggressor in the war.

Former National Land Minister Seisuke Okuno, 75, was forced to resign in May following his comment, "Japan fought the war to secure its safety. The white race had turned Asia into a colony. Japan was by no means a nation of aggressors."

More than 7,000 people, including Takeshita, attended the government-sponsored service at Nippon Budokan Hall near the Imperial Palace in central Tokyo to mark the 43rd anniversary of Japan's surrender in the war.

Move to hold back rising Nile

Sudanese build flood barriers

KHARTOUM, Aug 15, (Reuters): Thousands of anxious people living along the Nile hurriedly built sandbag barriers today to hold back the river, surging towards its record 1946 flood level.

In the capital Khartoum, workers erected a wall of sandbags around the Kuwait-Sudan Centre, an 11-storey office block housing the World Bank, the US Aid Mission and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Sudan, one of the most impoverished nations in Africa, has appealed for international aid to help an estimated two million people made homeless by floods in the last two weeks.

The official death toll has been put at 58, but diplomats believe it to be higher.

A statement from the Irriga-

tion Ministry said the Nile was likely to reach a critical level in the next two days.

It said the river rose 29 centimetres yesterday to 16.50 metres and was still rising.

The worst Nile flood this century peaked at about 17.14 metres in 1946, submerging most of Khartoum and large tracts of Sudan's northern region.

No shelter

As the latest threat worsened, relief agencies said most of the victims in the capital of four million were still without shelter, medical care or sufficient food nearly two weeks after a 13-hour downpour started the flood crisis.

At least a dozen countries have sent emergency relief supplies, including tents, blankets, medicine and foodstuffs.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd

personally donated \$8 million to help and his country last week began an airlift of emergency supplies.

The Sudanese government minister heading the relief operation said on Saturday the foreign aid provided so far amounted to just "a drop in the ocean" compared with the size of the problem.

While threatening disaster for Sudan, the flood will prove a boon to neighbouring Egypt. The Nile flows north from Sudan through arid Egypt to the Mediterranean and is vital to irrigate crops and generate hydro-electric power.

Eight successive years of below-average floods have depleted the huge reservoir behind Egypt's Aswan Dam and forced the government to impose harsh conservation measures.

Islanders open Pacific festival

TOWNSVILLE, Australia, Aug 15, (AP): Dancers, singers, artists and musicians from 24 Pacific Island countries and territories today launched the 5th Festival of Pacific Arts to the rhythm of drums and the sway of grass skirts.

Designed to save Pacific culture from extinction and first held in 1972 in Fiji, the festival is now one of the major cultural events in Pacific life.

Australian Governor General

Sir Ninian Stephen officially opened the festival after a parade through the streets of Townsville in the northern tropics.

The festival has been organised by the Australian aboriginal and islanders.

Festival chairman Pat Turner, an aboriginal civil servant, said aborigines "want to demonstrate to the people of Australia and the world that we have the skills and means to put on a festival to show

the world."

The Australian government provided \$3.8 million to fund the two-week festival.

There will also be a Pacific film festival along with displays of traditional crafts such as basketry, mat weaving, painting and spear and club making.

Organisers have banned photography at some performances because they contain tribal secrets.

First phase of Soviet pullout completed

Afghan troops retake Kunduz

KABUL, Aug 15, (Reuters): Afghan government forces have recaptured the northern provincial capital of Kunduz which fell to mujahideen rebels after Soviet troops left the area last week, President Najibullah said today.

"Kunduz is in the hands of the Afghan Armed Forces," Najibullah told reporters at the Afghan Foreign Ministry. He made the announcement after reading a slip of paper passed to him during a news conference.

Moscow Radio reported today that half of the Soviet Union's troops in Afghanistan had left the country.

Under quadripartite Geneva accords signed in April, today was the deadline for the first half of the 100,000 Soviet forces in Afghanistan to withdraw. The remainder must be out by Feb 15.

"In accordance with the Geneva accords, 50 per cent of the Soviet troops have been withdrawn from Afghanistan," Moscow Radio said.

There were no immediate details on how Kunduz, which has been the centre of fierce fighting for days, had been retaken by the Afghan Army.

On Sunday, the commander of Soviet forces in Afghanistan acknowledged that the city had fallen to the rebels but said Moscow's troops would not go back to help recapture it. Kunduz is just 60 kilometres south of the Soviet border.

Western diplomatic sources said on Friday that the Afghan Army still controlled Kunduz airport. They said Afghan troops had appealed for help from Soviet ground forces in the area but Soviet officials refused.

Gratitude

Lieutenant-General Boris Gromov, commander of Soviet forces in Afghanistan, told a news conference on Sunday that his troops "were not taking part and would take part" in combat operations in Kunduz province.

The rebel assault on Kunduz was seen as a test for the Afghan Army to show its fighting ability after its Soviet backers pulled out. Afghan Army units have been redeploying to fill the gaps

left by Soviet troops.

Najibullah, in an interview with the Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda today, thanked the departing Soviet soldiers, saying they had prevented Afghanistan "from being turned into a seat of reaction and aggression."

But he repeated charges that Pakistan was helping the rebels in violation of the Geneva accords. He said the Soviet Union and Afghanistan "will react to the development of the situation in the appropriate way." He did not elaborate.

Meanwhile, dependents of Soviet diplomats have been evacuated from Kabul, Soviet TV said.

"As of Aug 14, fifty per cent of the Soviet troops have been withdrawn from Afghanistan," Tass quoted Gromov as saying. "At present, there is now not a single troop in 25 of 31 Afghan provinces."

At the height of the eight-year war against Muslim rebels, the Soviets had 115,000 Soviet troops in combat, but the April

14 Geneva accords mandated that 57,000 be out by Aug 15 and that all leave by Feb 15 under a nine-month pullout. The withdrawal began on May 15.

The total number of Afghan provinces has varied in Soviet accounts, given variously as 30, 31 and 32. Gromov gave a figure of 31 on Sunday. But the Soviet media have all agreed that only six provinces now contain Soviet troops.

Attack

Early on Sunday, Tass reported from Kabul that Muslim rebels had shelled three districts of the Afghan capital, killing five people — four women and a child — and wounding six other persons.

"Bluntly speaking, the situation in Kabul is complex," the Soviet TV reporter from Kabul Mikhail Leshinsky said.

"The past month of July was particularly difficult," he said. "There were massed rocket attacks," Leshinsky acknowledged that dependents of Soviet personnel had been evacuated from the country.

Hopes rise for release of detainees

British hostages are 'alive'

LONDON, Aug 15, (Reuters): A Church of England official who met an Iranian diplomat said today he was confident Anglican envoy Terry Waite and two other British hostages were alive.

"I am optimistic that he (Waite) is alive and that the other British hostages are alive. As to whether anything is going to happen quickly, I am rather more cautious," John Lytle said after holding five days of talks with the diplomat in London.

Lytle also attended a first day of talks between the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, and Mohammad Reza Mohammadi, an Iranian Foreign Ministry official.

The talks, held at the Archbishop's London residence of Lambeth Palace, were the latest in a series of diplomatic initiatives by Runcie to try to gain the freedom of his envoy.

Waite was kidnapped in Beirut in January 1987 while trying to negotiate the freedom of West-

ern hostages, believed held by pro-Iranian groups.

"We believe they (the Iranians) do have very considerable influence. And they say so themselves," Lytle said in a radio interview.

The Church said after the talks ended last night that they had been conducted in an open and relaxed manner.

"We now look to Iran to use all its undoubted influence in Lebanon to help to bring about the release of Brian Keenan, John McCarthy and Terry Waite," the statement ended.

The move by the Church coincided with the first visit by a British diplomat to Iran for a year.

David Reddaway, who left on Thursday for a three-week mission to assess Iranian intentions, has already been granted permission to visit two Britons jailed in Iran.

British government officials have said his mission could pave

the way for the re-opening of the British Embassy in Tehran closed in 1980.

The spokesman said Runcie "is firmly of the view that any government which has influence that might bring about the release of hostages of whatever nationality should use it without qualification."

He added that Runcie was heartened by improvements in Anglo-Iranian ties, including the visit to Iran by the first British diplomat in more than a year, David Reddaway.

London and Tehran downgraded relations last summer when a British diplomat was beaten in Iran after the arrest in Manchester, northwest England, of an Iranian official on shoplifting charges.

On Sunday, the Observer newspaper quoted Iranian sources as saying the hostages could be freed within weeks. But a British Foreign Office spokesman could not confirm the report.

Pearl Bailey entertains US troops in the Gulf

MANAMA, Aug 15, (UPI): Singer Pearl Bailey entertained US servicemen aboard a US warship in the Gulf, on the last stop of a tour of the region, a spokesman for the entertainer said today.

Dan Markley, speaking for Bailey, said she entertained the troops for two hours late Sunday aboard the USS Coronado, the flagship of the joint task force in the Middle East. Servicemen from other US warships nearby also attended the performance.

Bailey, who earlier visited two other vessels in the north Arabian Sea, was taking advantage of the relaxed mood in the Gulf since the announcement of a formal ceasefire date between Iran and Iraq ushered in an unofficial truce a week ago.

She sang "Hello Dolly." "If you could ready my mind," "Something Wonderful," and other hit songs, with her husband Louie Bellson on the drums.

Mood

A member of Bailey's group said the mood of the servicemen was relaxed. "I guess that's because the whole of the Gulf is now relaxed," he said.

Bailey, whose stop in Bahrain was the last on her tour of the region, was scheduled to give one more performance aboard a US warship before flying back to the United States.

Markley said Bailey's tour of US warships in the Gulf and the Arabian Sea was arranged by the United Services Organisation.

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KUWAIT ... GULF

30 per cent of expatriates born in Kuwait

THE general census taken in 1985 indicates that 30 per cent of the country's expatriates were born in Kuwait.

The report also shows that 41 per cent of the country's Arab expatriates were born in Kuwait, while only 11 per cent of the Asian expatriates here were born in Kuwait.

Europeans in Kuwait are the smallest per cent born here, with only 4 per cent. The other percentages of births of expatriates in Kuwait and their nationalities are: six per cent among North Americans, 13 per cent among South Americans and 20 per cent among Australians and New Zealanders.

The report also indicates that Arabs are the most stable expatriates in Kuwait.

The census report shows that the percentages of those born in Kuwait increase as the period of stay of the specific nationality increases.

65pc of electricity used to run air-conditioners

SIXTY-FIVE per cent of the electricity produced in Kuwait is used to run air-conditioners during the summer, according to Electricity and Water Minister Homoud Al Rqobah.

Rqobah urged Kuwait's residents to ration energy and water consumption to avoid imposition of higher rates.

The problems of electricity overload are due to what he described as extravagance in lighting and cooling consumption.

Consumption

He explained that electricity consumption for lighting is only 50 megawatts from the overall load compared to 2,600 megawatts out of 4,000 for air-conditioning which drops to 1,400 megawatts during winter.

The minister appealed to citizens to co-operate with his ministry by not operating air conditioners when not needed.

In an interview with a local daily the minister expressed optimism that available energy resources will be adequate up to the year 2000 despite some emergency cases.

Rqobah put the local consumption of drinking water at 120 million gallons per day. He said about 90 million gallons of brackish water is used daily.

Regarding reddish water in Kuwait, Rqobah said the problem will be resolved in the near future. He said that a scientific experiment on the problem is already under way in Kaifan and Abdullah Al Salem areas.

He said inhabitants noticed a tangible change in the quality of water and added that a questionnaire on the result of the experiment will be published by the end of this month.

Regarding poor electricity supply in chafel areas, the mini-



Al Rqobah
ster said booster stations are being built but he stressed that the matter is a technical one and needs some time.

Bahraini premier returns home after recovery

MANAMA, Aug 15, (KUNA): Bahraini Premier Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa returned home from Saudi Arabia yesterday after recovering from surgery there, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

In an arrival statement, Sheikh Khalifa thanked the Almighty God for his recovery and expressed appreciation to the Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa and the Bahraini people for their care and support during his illness.

Sheikh Khalifa also expressed his deep appreciation and gratitude to King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, the Saudi people and the Arab and Gulf people for their concern and brotherly feelings.

Khalifa was received upon arrival by the Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Bin Salman, the Crown Prince and General Commander of Bahraini Armed Forces Sheikh Hamd Bin Issa and other Bahraini officials.

Meanwhile, the Saudi monarch received a message from Sheikh Khalifa expressing his appreciation for the care he received while in the kingdom.



Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa (left) in talks with HH the Amir as Sheikh Sabah looks on.

Amir receives Bahraini message

BAHRAINI Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa met yesterday with HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah.

The Bahraini minister conveyed a message to HH the Amir from Bahraini Amir Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa. The contents of the message were not disclosed.

The meetings were attended by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Affairs Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah and the Bahraini ambassador to Kuwait.

The Bahraini minister left Kuwait yesterday afternoon after a short visit.

Important source of water being depleted

MANAMA, Aug 15, (AP): Deep underneath the Arab states lining the Gulf lies another body of water, one whose depletion could endanger future generations.

The Dammam aquifer is a vital resource for the six nations, providing an estimated one-third of their overall water. But with all six states sucking up the water faster than nature can put it back, experts worry about an arid future.

Elsewhere in the Middle East, other nations are struggling to find investment money and goodwill from neighbouring nations to solve their water problems.

Drought

Nile river countries are worried about a drought that has affected the river's level, and Libya is investing \$25 billion in a huge project to create an "underground river" for its citizens.

Experts say the use of the river systems that give Israel, Syria, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq much of their water are a potential source of political and even military conflict.

"Man can live without food for two or three months, but he would die without water for two to three days," says Ahmed Adel Orabi, deputy director of the regional UN environmental programme in Bahrain.

The Dammam aquifer stretches the length of the Gulf's western coastline, from Kuwait in the north through Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman. It reaches under the Gulf to the island state of Bahrain.

"If extraction continues to exceed recharge, the Dammam aquifer can dry up within 10 to 50 years," Orabi said. "If well exploited, it can last forever."

The aquifer, whose water has been used mostly for agriculture, fed the artesian wells that allowed oases to flourish along the coast for hundreds of years.

But oil riches in recent years

have unleashed a demand for water in the region that sometimes makes it seem the current generation is making up for the centuries of thirst.

"Water has been stored in the reservoir over millions of years for the past 10 to 15 years it is being bled more than can be compensated," said Jamil Al Alawi, Assistant Undersecretary for Power and Water Affairs.

Bahrain's finances, battered by soft oil prices, have enabled it to build only two desalination plants to take water from the sea. A third, a gift from Saudi Arabia, has been delayed. Meanwhile, 50 per cent of its water comes from the underground system.

Desalination plants make it unlikely that anyone in the area will go thirsty. But the cost of refined water is prohibitive for irrigation, so the water from the aquifer is the key to agricultural and economic development.

Prayers

Area rulers have called for nationwide prayers when the rains don't come in the winter, while newspaper and television campaigns skewer careless consumers. "Don't be a drain on Bahrain," was the caption on a newspaper cartoon of a car washer producing a flood to get the task done.

This year there was bountiful rain, so much that Bahrain tomato growers almost lost their crops. But the rains are unpredictable.

The United Nations Environmental Programme hopes to come up with a comprehensive plan within two years for conserving the aquifer. An international agreement might have to be hammered out on distributing water among the six nations.

The plan will also suggest alternative irrigation sources, like recycling sewer water. And it will seek to help farmers reduce their water use.

Orabi said it is false that land in desert areas requires more water for irrigation.

Al Alawi estimated that Bahrain's population is increasing at the rate of five to 10 per cent annually. Coupled with a rising standard of living, water consumption reached a peak of 61 million gallons (23 million cubic metres) per day last year. It is expected to hit an annual rate of 65 million gallons (25 million cubic metres) this summer.

The importance of water is growing elsewhere in the Middle East as bigger and more demanding populations compete for limited resources. The sensitivity of the subject was demonstrated last month in the Sudan when thousands of demonstrators marched through Khartoum, the capital, to protest cuts in the water supply. Silt in the Nile had obstructed pumping stations and purification systems.

The Nile is in its eighth year of drought, and scientists are wondering whether the low-water conditions might last as long as 20 years.

The river provides 86 per cent of the almost 158 billion gallons (60 billion cubic metres) of water Egypt consumes each year. The rest comes from underground reservoirs.

The prolonged failure of rainfall at the Ugandan and Ethiopian headwaters of the White Nile and Blue Nile has lowered the river's level in Egypt from about 580 feet (177 metres) to about 501 feet (152 metres). The low all summer was 492 feet (150 metres). If the water level behind the High Dam of Egypt sinks to 485 feet (147 metres) the generators will stop. President Hosni Mubarak warned in a speech earlier this year that hundreds of villages could lose electricity unless the drought eases.

Neighbouring Libya, meanwhile, is investing heavily in what it calls the "great man-made river project" to fulfil Col. Moammar Khaddafi's dream of making the nation self-sufficient in agriculture. The effort is to include 2,200

miles (3,500 kilometres) of huge pipes under the Saharan sands to bring water from underground reservoirs to the coast.

The first water is expected to flow through the pipes — big enough inside for a stilt-walker to march around unhindered — in 1990. The ultimate capacity is supposed to be 13 million gallons (5 million cubic metres) a day. More than 125 miles (200 kilometres) of pipe have been laid so far.

Potential

Further east, the river systems that supply Israel, Syria, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq with much of their water are a potential source of conflict, according to a recent American study.

The upper Jordan river is already fully exploited, and Syria and Jordan have announced plans to build a so-called Unity Dam on its tributary, the Yarmuk. But a Syrian plan to divert water higher up the Yarmuk could stem the flow through the Jordan river basin that sustains important agriculture in both Israel and Jordan, according to a study published early this year by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC.

Anticipates

Dams on the Tigris and Euphrates rivers being built by Turkey could also sharply curb the water flowing to Syria and Iraq. Turkey's ambitious Anatolia project anticipates 13 hydroelectric and irrigation projects on the upper reaches of those rivers. With Syria also drawing off water, the flow from the two rivers to Iraq could be reduced by two-thirds.

Sharing and conserving the water requires co-operation in a region more known for rivalry and conflict, the study points out.

It says: "By the year 2000, water — not oil — will be the dominant resource issue of the Middle East."

Soviet minister to visit Kuwait

DEPUTY Soviet Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov will soon visit Kuwait, Iran and other Gulf states, press reports said yesterday.

The tour will follow the Arab seven-man committee's visit to Moscow, headed by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Affairs Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah, reliable sources told a daily newspaper.

Vorontsov, and Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky, will follow up talks held during Sheikh Sabah's Moscow visit, according to sources.

The visit comes after Aug 20 was fixed for a ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war.

Gulf English School

SPECIAL arrangements have been made at the Gulf English School so parents can avoid the busy registration period at the beginning of the academic year 88/89.

As of Aug 20, the registrar's office at the school will be open from 8 am to 4 pm on weekdays for parents to collect admission cards for their children.

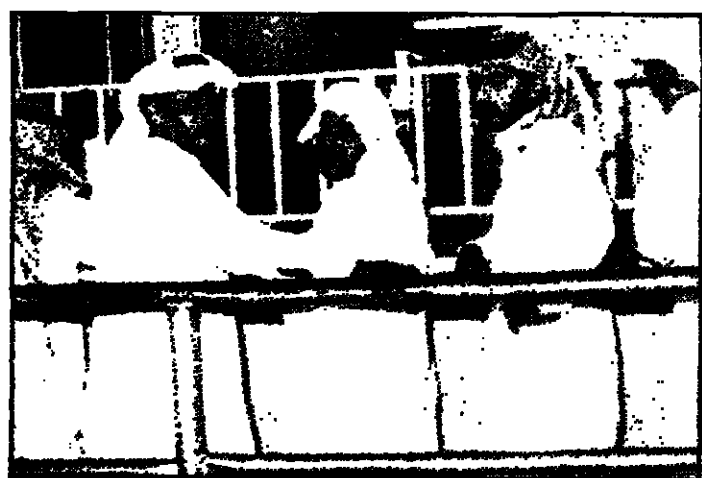
Uniforms are now available at the school.

Abide by speed limit

THE public relations office at the Ministry of Interior has appealed to drivers to abide by speed limits on motorways and added that an extensive campaign has been launched against speeding drivers and reckless drivers.

Twenty-one drivers were recently arrested as they were preparing to race on a motorway, officials said.

There were 27 traffic accidents in Kuwait yesterday. A woman died when she was run over by a speeding car in the Rabiya area.



People awaiting processing of documents.

Al Nowaiseeb border centre very busy

AN official of Al Nowaiseeb border centre was quoted as saying that this vital outlet is second only to Kuwait International Airport after the opening of the causeway linking Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

In an interview with a local daily, the head of the centre, Abdullah Mal Allah said that all passengers are treated on an equal basis in keeping with the directives of the Minister of Interior Sheikh Salem Al Sabah and other senior officials.

Border centres were provided with computers to overcome the problem of similarity in names among passengers who have been prohibited from leaving Kuwait.

The daily reported that 402,119 outgoing passengers went through the centre in 1987, while there were 401,095 incoming passengers last year. There were 278,010 outgoing passengers, and 274,478 incoming passengers in 1986.

Farmers encouraged to cultivate wheat

THE Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Wealth has been praised for encouraging local farmers to plant wheat.

Sources said that farmers supported the project to cultivate wheat according to the wishes of HH the Amir of Kuwait.

Sources added that wheat cultivation in Kuwait could succeed despite the hot and arid weather conditions, provided farmers increased irrigation.

Wheat needs continuous water to grow in Kuwait. Underground water near the surface can help provide water for irrigation, the sources said.

Kuwait farmers pointed out that they cannot depend on the small amount of rain water in Kuwait to irrigate wheat.

But they concurred that Kuwait farmers have sufficient technical experience in cultivation and irrigation methods to solve the problem of scarcity of water in the country.

Illicit sexual relations

THE Criminal Court has sentenced a man and a woman accused of illicit sexual relations to two years' imprisonment each, to be followed by deportation.

The man, Aslam, entered a house without the consent of the owner and had sexual intercourse with the maid, according to reports. The owners of the house saw Aslam going into their property and called the police, who caught the couple together.

Meanwhile, the Court of Higher Appeal has amended a jail sentence on four men from four years each to two and a half years for three of them and one year for the fourth man.

They were accused of robbing a studio in Fahad and a restaurant in Hawalli. Salamiya detectives arrested them after a police officer searched their car and found cameras and some cash.

The four confessed to committing the crimes.

Libyan minister in Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, Aug 15, (KUNA): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia last night received a message from Libyan leader Col. Moammar Khaddafi. Radio Riyadh reported today. The contents were not disclosed.

The message was conveyed by Libyan Foreign Minister Jadalhan Azouz Al Talhi during an audience last night also attended by Saudi officials and Libyan embassy staffers.

Talhi arrived in Jeddah on Sunday from Abu Dhabi as part of an Arab tour to deliver messages from Khaddafi to Arab leaders on his proposed Arab unity project.

Arab League team holds talks in UK

LONDON, Aug 15, (KUNA): An Arab League delegation, charged with monitoring developments in the Iran-Iraq war, held talks here this morning with British Foreign Office Minister Lynda Chalker.

The team, made up of the Jordanian Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, his Tunisian counterpart Abdel Hamid Belsheikh, and the Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi, arrived here yesterday after a similar visit to Paris.

Today's exchanges with the British government were designed to impress on London that the agreement on a ceasefire between Iran and Iraq should only be considered the major first step that should be followed by other moves aimed at realising a just and comprehensive peace between the two warring nations, Arab sources here said.

Both Britain and the Arab League delegation pledged their continued support for UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar's efforts to help the two countries achieve a lasting peace, the sources said.

The two sides also called for the full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598, the sources went on.

Reviewed

They added that the Arab team also reviewed with Chalker the recent developments in the area and expressed the hope that Iran's acceptance of the ceasefire demand will pave the way for securing peace and stability in the entire Gulf region.

The delegation is part of the seven-man Arab League ministerial committee entrusted with following up developments in the Iran-Iraq dispute.

A similar team led by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah visited Moscow last week for the same purpose.

Formalities for completion of expropriations referred to the Ministry of Finance last fiscal year amounted to 677, the director said.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri cable

HH the Amir sent a cable of congratulations to the president of South Korea on his country's National Day.

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah also sent a similar message to S. Korean Prime Minister Lee Hyun Joe.

Crown Prince audiences

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah yesterday received Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Sabah, Electricity and Water Minister Homoud Al Rqobah and General Director of Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaili.

Sheikh Saad later received the head of members of the administrative staff of the Kuwaiti Student Union in France and deputy head of the Kuwaiti Student Union in the US.

He also received a number of citizens in the public diwan.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue

A KUWAITI daily yesterday urged the PLO and Jordan to resolve issues that have popped up after King Hussein severed links with the occupied West Bank in a manner that does not jeopardise the Palestinian goal of self-determination.

Commenting on the meetings between the PLO delegation and the Jordanian side which ended in Amman Sunday, the newspaper said Jordan's agreement to discuss the question of the East Bank Palestinians "is an important indication of the success of the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue."

King Hussein gave East Bank Palestinians the option of retaining their Jordanian citizenship or keeping their Palestinian identity. The move was the latest in a series of steps that came after the king severed legal and administrative ties with the West Bank last month.

The newspaper emphasised that dialogue is the only way the two sides will end the daily hardships of the Palestinians under the Israeli occupation.

"Dialogue is commendable but when it ends in agreement on the outstanding issues it becomes fruitful and constructive and paves the way for fulfilment of the Palestinian objectives of self-determination and establishment of the independent state," the newspaper said.

Follow the Yemenis

ANOTHER local newspaper yesterday called on the Arab states to follow the example of the two Yemenis in encouraging removal of all barriers blocking free movement of citizens and capital.

"The experiment of the two Yemenis can be expanded and promoted as a fact of life and a sign of progress and civilisation," the daily said in reference to the recent joint Yemeni move.

North and South Yemen have allowed their citizens to cross the borders with the identity cards alone. They have also sanctioned the free movement of capital and joint investment of the natural wealth in the two sectors.

The newspaper hoped for similar initiatives in the Arab world, abolishing passports and borders and allowing Arabs to move freely from one part of the Arab world to the other.



WARNING

Maqsood Ahmad Latif Ahmad, a Pakistani national, has left his employment without any official notice. His passport is with him and he is still under our sponsorship. We warn anyone hiding or employing him of legal responsibility. Those who know his whereabouts are requested to call Tel. 4835144/4835155 or the nearest police station.

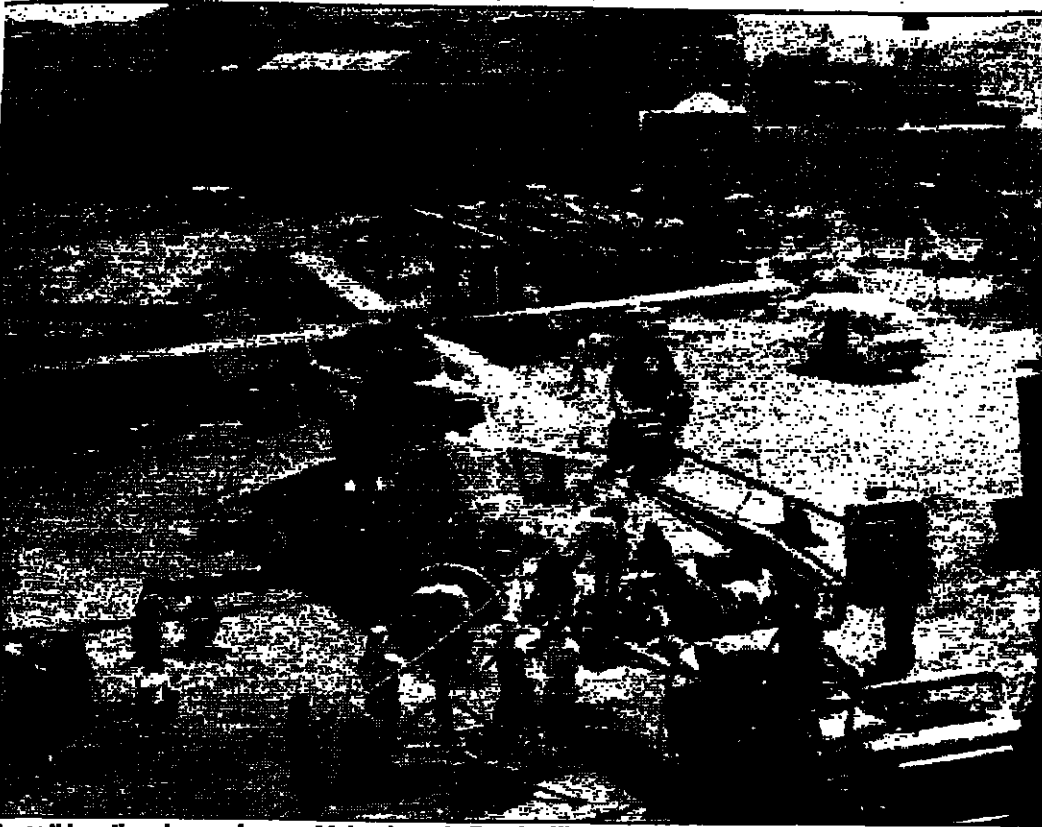
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Rambo III shot in Israel

RAMBO III, now being shown in Kuwait and a number of other Arab countries, was shot in Israel and its cast includes an Israeli actor, Sason Gabai.

Despite ample proof, in the form of pictures and reports in Hollywood magazines, this has clearly escaped the notice of the Arab Israeli-boycott Bureau, which is charged with blacklisting all those who violate the boycott.

The photograph (right) shows actor Sylvester Stallone scuba diving in the Red Sea when he was in Israel scouting locations for Rambo III.

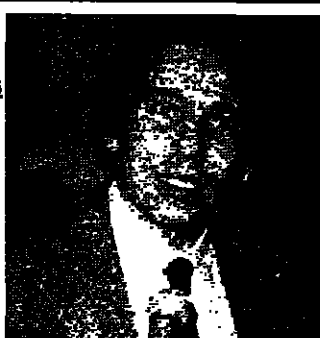


New season

PREPARATIONS are under way for the new season at the Kuwait Cine Club, which begins in October.

Farouq Abdul Aziz, director of the club, said that they have obtained about 500 new films for the video library. These will be added to the present collection before October. The majority of the films will not be available at local video stores.

The club's video library is open to all members. An annual membership fee — KD 25 for the first year and KD 15 thereafter — allows members to use the film library and participate in the various film festivals.



Farouq Abdul Aziz, director of the Cine Club

A number of foreign film festivals will be held in the coming season, among them Iraqi, Soviet and Algerian.

Major TV project for Ramadan

KUWAIT Television has appointed director Hussain Al Saleh to supervise the production of one of its costliest programmes. Over KD 100,000 has been set aside for this programme, which will be

shown in Kuwait and a number of Gulf states during the next Ramadan.

The series will feature Kuwaiti artists, such as Saad Al Faraj, Ghanem Al Saleh,



Hussain Al Saleh, the director



Maryam Al Ghabban

Ahmad Al Saleh, Ibrahim Al Sallal, Hayat Al Fahad, Maryam Al Ghabban, and Maryam Al Saleh.

Hussain Al Saleh said he has been working on the series for the last three months and expects shooting to begin in September. The daily serial will have 30 parts, each an hour long. Each episode will feature society and lifestyle in a variety of Arab and foreign capitals.



Saad Al Faraj

Al Saleh has also been working on a play for the last five years. It is a comedy, written by Mohammed Mubarak and starring Hayat Al Fahad, Maryam Al Saleh, Maryam Al Ghabban, and Intisar Al Sharah. Al Saleh had some difficulties casting: the play is about a society that is completely dominated by women and it took a while to find the required number of actresses.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Hajri Pharmacy
Al Hilali St., Al Hajri Bldg.
Al Ojail Pharmacy
Al Mubarakia, Filistin St.
Adnan Abdul Aziz properties
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Naser Pharmacy
Tunis St., Hawalli

Salmiya and Rumeithiya
Al Sef Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak St., Al Anjari Complex
Fahad and Ahmad
Al Itehad Pharmacy
Mecca St., Fahad
Farwaniya
Al Taawon Pharmacy
Main St., Al Jari commercial Complex no. 3
Jahra
Al Khaled Pharmacy
opp. Jahra Co-op. Society

BBC World Services

0000 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Radio Newswel
30 Beechoven
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
30 Short Story
45 The Seven Ages of Shakespeare
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Network UK
30 Sports International (ex 2nd and 9th Pilgrim's Progress)
0300 World News
09 News about Britain
15 The World Today

RADIO PROGRAMMES

30 John Peel
0400 Newsdesk
30 Without Strings
45 Reflections
45 Financial News
0500 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 New Ideas
40 Book Choice
45 The World Today
0600 Newsdesk
30 Hitting the High Notes
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 The Seven Ages of Shakespeare

45 Network UK
0600 World News
09 Reflections
15 Health Matters
30 Beechoven
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The World Today
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 English Songsmiths (ex 2nd and 9th Pilgrim's Progress)
1000 News Summary followed by The Pop Science Programme
30 Sports International (ex 2nd and 9th Pilgrim's Progress)
1100 World News

09 News about Britain
15 Waveguide (ex 9th and 30th Sports world contd.)
30 Citizens
1200 Radio Newswel
15 Multitrack 1: Top 20
45 Sports Roundup
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Network UK
45 Recording of the Week (ex 9th and 30th Sports world)
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
45 Without Strings
1500 Radio Newswel
15 A Jolly Good Show

1600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Omnibus
45 The World Today
1700 World News
09 Commentary
15 Citizens
45 Sports Roundup
1800 Newsdesk
30 Prom Concert (ex 2nd and 9th, Development '88)
1900 (2nd and 9th only) Outlook, opening with News Summary
16 16th and 30th Prom Concert contd.; 23rd Outlook, opening with News Summary
39 Stock Market Report (ex 23rd Outlook contd.)
45 Report on Religion (ex 23rd Outlook contd.)
56 (23rd only) Stock Market Report
2000 World News

09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Meridian
English
Morning
0800 Opening
0802 Songs and Music
0805 Thoughts in Islam
0830 News
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Songs and Music
0930 They Sold a Million
1000 Our Press Today
1005 Songs and Music
1100 Closedown
1330 News on FM Service
Evening
2100 Opening
2102 In the Latin Mood
2130 News
2145 Point of View
2155 Songs and Music
2300 On Islam
2315 In the Groove
2345 Daily Programme
2350 Hit Special
2350 Jazz in Action
2400 Closedown

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
The museum will be open to the public every evening from 5 pm and from 9 am on Friday.
Islamic Arts Museum
The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 7.30 pm, Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show.
Tareq Rajab Museum
The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

SOCIAL
Indonesian Independence Day
On the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the independence of Indonesia, a flag hoisting ceremony will be held at the embassy, Nuzha Main St., Plot 3, Villa 32, on Aug 17 at 8:00 am. Members of the Indonesian community are cordially invited.

Indian Arts Circle
The Indian Arts Circle will stage a programme at 7.30 pm, Aug 18, to mark the end of a year's celebration of the 40th anniversary of India's independence. All Indians are cordially invited.

Malayalam debate
A series of debates on Malayalam cinema are being held this month. The last one is on: The different stages of cinema production and its influence on entertainment (Aug 19). The discussions will be carried out mainly in Malayalam. For information on time and venue, please contact Karun 4814477.

Onam Festival
The Viswabarathi Theatres, Abhisaya, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. IAC President M. Mathews will be the chief patron. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakkali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese — 4314511; Thomas Perumilly — 4810490 ext. 207; Verghese Paradyil 2422973.
Y.M.C.A.
The Y.M.C.A. will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1 at 8.30 pm. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks and Stepping Stones will be in attendance. For reservations, contact J. D'Sa at 2450279, 3981790, 3924659.

Varcas Sporting Centre
Varcas Sporting Centre will organise an evening of games and entertainment at the Tent SAS on September 22, 1988. Music will be provided by Top Ranks and Next of Kin. Further details later.

HOTELS

At the Meridian
La Brasserie offers Friday brunch from 12 noon to 4 pm; also open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Beat the summer heat with cool juices offered in the lobby lounge; musical entertainment is provided in the evenings.

Mango promotion, featuring wide variety of mango preparations, until Aug 31.

At the Continental
The Gardenia, open from 7 am to midnight, offers buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food at dinner on Thursday and at lunch on Friday.

The Darbar offers lunch buffet every Thursday. A la carte for dinner.

At the Ramada
Al Gandou Grill Garden, open 7pm to midnight, features a selection of grilled specialties. The Open Garden has selection of teas, coffees, and juices; Arguilla water pipe available; videos shown on large screen every day. Open every day 7 pm to 11 pm.

Take away counter, open daily 4pm to 11pm, offers a selection of Arabic sandwiches and snacks, plus fish and chips. Tea, coffee, juices, cakes and pastries are available at the Ramada Al Salam lounge, open 10am to 11pm; icecream promotion daily.

At the Sheraton
Enjoy Italian cuisine and live entertainment by the Sienna's Duo at the Riccardo restaurant. Riccardo's is closed on Fridays.

Al Hamba features authentic Lebanese cuisine every Sunday and seafood specialties on Wednesday nights; a sumptuous brunch buffet is offered on Fridays. Live entertainment is provided by the Lords.

The Hunt Room offers a variety of meat and fish preparations at lunch and dinner.

Arab world specialties are available every Thursday evening at Le Tarbouche. A buffet lunch and dinner is offered on Fridays.

The Coffee Shop features a wide range of international cuisine and has a daily special.

At the Regency
Regency Palace is offering a special Hijra New Year holiday weekend package for Kuwaitis and residents of Kuwait (family), featuring a welcome drink, full breakfast buffet, local daily newspaper, late checkout (6 pm), and the use of extensive health and fitness facilities.

At the Kuwait Plaza Hotel
The Al Dallah coffee shop offers buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as a set menu mini business lunch. Light snacks and ice-cream are

available at the International Food Arcade; open 10:00 am to 11:00 pm.

Enjoy Turkish cuisine, a la carte, at the Bosphorus restaurant. Open for lunch and dinner every day except Saturday. The Marco Polo restaurant offers Italian food, live music and a candlelight atmosphere.

There is a Filipino Night every Sunday 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm; live entertainment provided.

At the Holiday Inn
Al Ahmad Coffee Shop offers international buffet meals at lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also available. Fresh pastries and cakes can be bought every day at the Viennese Cafe. The Hanging Babylon Gardens are ideal for a period of quiet relaxation.

On Wednesday, join the Shahrzad barbecue at the poolside; there will be games, prizes and surprises. On Thursday, enjoy music and food at the Arabian Night at the Al Andalus Supper club. Al Dana offers a special treat for children at the Friday brunch, open from 11 am to 3 pm.

Recreation facilities include squash and tennis courts, male/female gymnasiums with saunas, solaria, whirlpools, and massage and relaxation rooms.

At the Hilton
La Palma has introduced a new 12-day buffet cycle featuring Arab specialties; open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner, from 6:30 am to midnight.

At the Failaka restaurant, select from a wide variety of dishes to make your own table top buffet. The Magnetic Bank provides live music in the evenings. Open every day 12:30 pm and 7:30 to 11:30 pm.

Ice-cream, cold drinks and this week's special — coconut pie — are available at La Patissier. Open daily 10:30 am - 10:45 pm.

SPORTS

Masters Bowling Tournament

The second Masters Tournament, open to both men and women, will be held on Aug 25-26 and Sept 1-2 at 300 Silver Tower (behind US embassy). The deadline for registration is Aug 23. For particulars, please contact Sarah Macarimbang 4843447.

14th Winners Cup cricket tournament

The YMCA will hold the All Kuwait Open 14th Winners Cup cricket tournament, beginning Sept 16. It will be played on Fridays and holidays at the Ahmadi Governorate Ground located behind the Computer Centre. Teams wishing to participate can contact Joe D'Sa, Tel: 3981790, 3-5 pm; 3924659, 5-8 pm. The draw will be held on Friday, Aug 26, at 9 am at the Kuwait Lanka Restaurant, Fahadheel.

Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club

Training will take place today (Tuesday). Meet at the grounds at 7:15 pm sharp.

Boy's Own Club

Boy's Own Club will organise a seven-a-side one-day football festival on the holiday declared to mark the Prophet's birthday (October 22/23). Interested teams can contact Milagres 3967446 or Joe D'Souza 4813622.

PBAK meeting

PBAK will have an officers' meeting on Aug 18 at the Pullman hotel at 7:30 pm. Discussion will centre on various forthcoming tournaments.

★ All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaik. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

English

Morning
0800 Opening
0802 Songs and Music
0805 Thoughts in Islam
0830 News
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Songs and Music
0930 They Sold a Million
1000 Our Press Today
1005 Songs and Music
1100 Closedown
1330 News on FM Service
Evening
2100 Opening
2102 In the Latin Mood
2130 News
2145 Point of View
2155 Songs and Music
2300 On Islam
2315 In the Groove
2345 Daily Programme
2350 Hit Special
2350 Jazz in Action
2400 Closedown

FM Services

0800 Easy Listening
0830 News
0840 Easy Listening
1000 Songs and Music
1300 Easy Listening
1330 News
1400 Classical Music
1600 Easy Listening
1700 Italian Hour
1800 Pops
2130 News
2145 Pops
2300 Indian Classical Hour
2300 Easy Listening
2400 Instrumental Music
0200 Closedown

Urdu

1900 Opening
1910 Bheerun Qaul
1916 Programme Preview
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Radio Club
2000 News
2020 Songs
2040 Jahan Numan
2100 Closedown

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.30 Space Adventures
10.15 Ibn Al Jabal
11.15 Ala Duniya Al Salam
12.15 Silver Spoons: serial starring Ricky Schroeder
1.00 News
1.05 World today via satellite
1.50 Variety show
2.30 Al Ajnha
3.35 Cartoons
4.15 Al Amat Istifham: play starring Safia Al Omeri, Mustafa ahmi, Safa Al Aabaa
6.00 Cartoons
6.45 Summer '88
7.05 Wajouh Wa Ahdath: cultural programme
8.00 Religious programme: with Sheikh Ali Al Jassar
8.30 Waqalat Al Arab
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Saqiya: serial starring Abdullah Ghaith, Mimi Jamal, Shukri Sarhan and Ahmed Khalil
10.40 Nughum Al Madinah
11.40 News Summary
11.45 World today via satellite
Holy Quran: Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Rubick
6.30 Chocky: Matthew is kidnapped
7.00 Australian Ark: "Survival"
8.00 News in English
8.30 You and the Law
8.40 Magnum: "Novel Connection". A contracted killer goes after three women.
9.30 Les Faucheurs de Marguerites
10.00 Perfect Strangers: "Trouble in Paradise". Errors and lessons on the art of courtship.
10.30 B/W feature film: "I See Ice" starring George Formby, Kay Walsh and Betty Stockfield. A keen amateur photographer accidentally snaps crooks at work.
11.30 News summary. Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



Magnum to the rescue, on KTV 2 at 8:40 pm.

CINEMA TODAY



Raj Babbar stars in Hum Fareshte Nahin Firdous.

Al Andalus
Jaws the Revenge
Al Salmiya
Rambo III
Starring: Sylvester Stallone
Al Hamba
Cries in the Night
Drive In
Da'arb Al Geeda'an
Starring: Yousif Sha'ban
Al Firdous
Hum Fareshte Nahin (Hindi)
Starring: Raj Babbar, Poonam, Om Puri
Fahadheel Open-Air
Khudair (Hindi)
Al Fahadheel
Le Gendarme a New York
Al Jahra
Awaara (Bengali)
Granada
Cheppu (Malayalam)
Salabikhat
The Est is Tough, Amigo
Al Jleeb
Satata (Bengali)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Shaitan Min Asal

PRAYERS

Fajr 3.52 am
Zuhr 11.52
Asr 3.27 pm
Maghreb 6.26
Isha 7.49

Write a play for the BBC

IF you have ever listened to drama productions on the radio and thought to yourself: "I could do better than that," now's your chance to prove it. BBC World Service is offering a first prize of £1,000 and a short-wave radio set to the writer of the best play on the theme "Pride and Prejudice" to arrive in Bush House by the end of this year. And you will be able to hear your play performed for a world-wide audience early in

1989. The rules are simple. You can submit no more than one script, and it must be an original, unpublished work written for radio. The play should be about an hour long but certainly no less than 30 minutes and should be written in English, for a maximum of six central characters. Typescripts would be preferred but are not compulsory. The script must arrive no later than

December 31st 1988, although the earlier it arrives the better.

"Pride and Prejudice" is, it should be stressed, a theme and not a title and intended as no more than a springboard for ideas; the judges are not expecting a reworking of Jane Austen's novel of that name.

Entrants are advised to keep a copy of their script, as World Service does not undertake to return the one you submit.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE golden age only comes to men when they have forgotten gold — G.K. Chesterton, English writer (1874-1936).

Prague Spring anniversary

Communist leaders appear uneasy

By Alison Smale

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia. (AP): Czechoslovakia's communist leaders appear uneasy about the upcoming anniversary of the August 1968 invasion that put them into power and crushed the "Prague Spring" liberal reforms.

The state-run media has made a series of attacks on former Communist Party leader Alexander Dubcek and other men prominent in the 1968 attempt to create "socialism with a human face."

The adoption of that slogan by none other than Mikhail Gorbachev makes it harder for Prague's leaders to assert that current reforms in the Soviet Union have nothing to do with Dubcek's policies two decades ago.

The similarities between Gorbachev's and Dubcek's ideas has buoyed the hopes of some dissenters in Prague that there will be change once the awkward anniversaries of 1988 — this fall marks 70 years since the founding of a democratic Czechoslovakia in 1918 — are past.

But Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov signalled in July that Moscow is not yet ready to revise its official view that the 1968 invasion was needed to stop Czechoslovakia from pulling out of the communist bloc.

Ryzhkov said nothing critical about Dubcek's specific policies, but Czechoslovak hardliners immediately took a harsher tone toward 1968's ousted leaders.

On July 14, the party daily Rude Pravo attacked writers and journalists who had promoted reform in 1968 in what some saw as a veiled warning to current Czechoslovak journalists not to imitate the recent frankness of the Soviet media.

On July 16, Rude Pravo accused Dubcek of taking advantage of Gorbachev's reforms to demand his own political rehabilitation. The newspaper denounced the former leader, now a retired forestry worker in Bratislava, as a

megalomaniac.

Five days later, in a regular feature the party daily ran the yellowish pages of 1968. "A worker charged that the leaders of 20 years 'seduced thousands of people who believed them, and then left them high and dry (without support).'"

However, Western diplomats and dissidents wonder if the official tactic of discussing 1968 to discredit its leaders will actually revive interest in the "Prague Spring."

Most of Czechoslovakia's 15.5 million people retreated into private life and the pursuit of material wealth after Dubcek was ousted as party leader and replaced by Gustav Husak in 1969.

Husak's own replacement last December has given them little faith in the tentative economic reforms now being attempted in Prague. Milos Jakes, who took over as general secretary, was responsible for the purge of 500,000 party members in the 1970s.

So far, there is little sign that the Aug 21 anniversary of the invasion will provoke public protests. Known dissidents have received police warnings against action and some plan to spend the day in country retreats rather than in police detention in the capital.

Security forces also have been vigilant of some Western journalists in Prague, making a full copy of one reporter's notes and dogging others' movements closely.

Appeals

A new, independent peace group claiming about 60 members is distributing underground appeals calling on citizens to dress in the red, white and blue colours of the Czechoslovak flag on Aug 21.

Non-dissidents concede the occasion evokes powerful emotions, but are quite certain there will be nothing like the spontaneous outpouring of protest that drove thousands onto the streets when Soviet and other Warsaw Pact tanks arrived in 1968.

Marcos still a leader somewhere

By Robert H. Reid

LAOAG, Philippines. (AP): In his traditional stronghold in the northern Philippines, Ferdinand Marcos remains a pervasive, respected figure more than two years after a Manila-based uprising toppled his 20-year authoritarian administration.

"I tell you that if he ran again, he would win hands down here," said Rafael Benemonte, mayor of the Ilocos Norte province town of Pagsanjan. "You know, we Ilocanos are very clanish."

In most of the Philippines, the Marcos years are associated with massive corruption, economic mismanagement and oppression. But in his native Ilocos Norte province, Marcos still enjoys widespread respect among his fellow Ilocanos.

President Corason Aquino has refused to allow Marcos to return to the Philippines from his exile in Hawaii, even to attend the funeral of his mother. Marcos fled to Hawaii after the February 1986 uprising that propelled Aquino to power. Pro-Marcos activists now speak of Marcos returning as a private citizen, rather as a challenger to take back power.

Rewarded

Marcos was the first Ilocano to reach the presidency. He rewarded his home province, which has a population of about 440,000, with roads and development projects. Ilocanos are strongly represented within the armed forces, although precise figures on their numbers are unavailable.

Rep. Roque Ablan, a pro-Marcos Congressman, claims allegations of massive corruption during the Marcos years and the embezzlement of up to \$10 billion have not significantly dented support for the ousted leader.

"In spite of all the accusations and charges, we still look up to Marcos," Ablan said. "We would like to see him come home, which is the right of every Filipino."

Not every Ilocano is a

dedicated Marcos loyalist. Communist rebels have made strong inroads in Ilocos Norte since 1981. The military estimates there may be as many as 500 regular members of the communist New People's Army.

But the spirit of Marcos looms heavy over this province about 250 miles (400 kms) north of Manila. Rural bus stops and walls of buildings in the provincial capital Laoag still bear graffiti such as "No to Cory" or "Marcos once more," his slogan in the fraud-tainted 1986 election.

Members

Most provincial and municipal officials elected in regional balloting last January are members of, or have been aligned with, Marcos' New Society Movement Party, which has virtually disintegrated elsewhere in the country.

In the town hall of Batac, the Marcos family ancestral home, pictures of Marcos and his wife Imelda hang on the walls of the Bureau of Internal Revenue Office. There is no picture of Aquino.

"People here still respect Marcos," said the Rev. Ruben Abaya, a Roman Catholic priest in Batac. "They would like to see him come home, although not necessarily as president. They respect him for his intelligence."

Pro-Marcos sympathies were whipped up again three months ago, when supporters of the former president spread reports that he would return for the funeral of his mother, Josefa, who died May 4.

Price

Mrs Aquino refused to allow him to come home, and the mother remains unbowed. Still, rumours that Marcos will come home soon persist.

The province's association with Marcos has not cost it a big price under the new administration. Provincial Gov. Rodolfo Farinas said the Aquino government has not discriminated against Ilocos Norte in the allocation of state funds.

Impromptu human rights monitor

UNRWA plays assertive role in Gaza Strip

By George D. Moffett III

GAZA CITY, Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip: As political confrontations go in these hot days of the Palestinian intifadah (uprising), it was hardly a major incident.

A United Nations official encountered Israeli soldiers beating a 10-year-old Palestinian. The boy had been caught during a stone-throwing demonstration in the Gaza Strip.

But, instead of remaining uninvolved, the UN official attempts to rescue the youngster. In the process, he gets roughed up himself.

"I usually don't play the role of cop," this official, a foreign national, explained later. "But when a kid is being beaten up you can't just stand by and watch."

The incident occurred recently. It is a small but telling sign of the assertive new role being played by the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), the agency that for nearly 40 years has quietly been meeting the health, education, and nutrition needs of tens of thousands of Palestinian refugee families.

Today, UNRWA has become

a kind of impromptu human rights monitor, tracking arrests and protesting perceived abuses by Israeli soldiers.

This higher profile since the intifadah began last December is welcomed by Palestinians. They say the agency is the lone line of defence against alleged abuses by the Israeli Army.

Strained

But the role has strained already difficult relations with Israel. UNRWA, because of its far-flung network of services, is often described as a kind of surrogate government — with its own agenda, many Israelis say — in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank.

"UNRWA has helped to incite the situation," one Israeli complains. "The philosophy underlying the curriculum (of UNRWA's 250 primary and junior high schools in the West Bank and Gaza) is 'You are all here temporarily. You will eventually go back to your home in Israel.'"

"We're like a married couple who hate each other but because of the children we have to stay together," one senior UNRWA

official says of the agency's uneasy relations with Israel.

UNRWA officials are openly critical of the collective punishments dealt out by the Israeli Defence Forces to crush the eight-month uprising.

"Recently we had no food, no electricity, no water for two weeks," complains one UNRWA official at Burej camp, which was closed down after the head of the village council resigned in response to a demand by the leadership of the Palestinian uprising.

"No one seems to understand that it's the children who are the first victims of the policy."

Resent

For their part, the Israeli soldiers resent what they see as unnecessary meddling by UNRWA in essential security operations.

So far, says one UNRWA official in Gaza, no letter protesting cruelty has ever been answered by the Israeli government.

Meanwhile, a new team of mobile UNRWA trouble-shooters has been formed since the intifadah, in part to respond to confrontations. Agency

officials say the presence of a foreign national usually moderates the behaviour of Israeli soldiers.

"I try to get close enough to the soldiers but not so close to the (Palestinian) kids that I incite more violence," says one of the new "regional affairs officers" whose unenviable job puts him squarely in the middle of the Arab-Israeli crossfire that has taken more than 200 lives since December.

The official says that most contacts with the soldiers are professional and polite. But during the last two months, there have been increasing incidents of verbal abuse, threats, and, in three recent instances, physical resistance to UNRWA officials who have intervened to stop beatings.

Protection

"Personally, I see our role more as one of protection than in terms of relief," says this official. "The fact that kids are getting knocked around, that's what's so hard to get used to."

Israel has had little real choice but to tolerate the presence of UNRWA, which picks up an

annual \$100 million tab for its work with 750,000 Palestinian refugees living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. (Israel donates \$300,000 annually to UNRWA.)

With 7,500 employees in the territories, UNRWA is the second largest employer there after the Israeli civil administration. All but 25 are Palestinians.

Since 1950, UNRWA has provided subsistence levels of sanitation, medical care and relief for Palestinian refugees living in the overcrowded refugee camps and towns in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon.

Income

Roads have been built and houses electrified, but UNRWA has carefully avoided crossing the line between relief and development work.

The reason: Palestinians say improvements that would give the camps a feeling of permanence that would implicitly signal acceptance of the 1948 partition of British-administered Palestine that led to the creation of Israel.

All but 4 per cent of UNRWA's income comes from volun-

tary contributions made by governments, nongovernmental organizations and private individuals. The UN pays the balance.

For many individual Palestinians, UNRWA is said to have become the charity of choice, since dollars to the UN agency guarantee that the intifadah will be nourished at its roots, in the refugee camps where the uprising began.

Since the start of the uprising, several governments have loosened their purse strings to contribute \$65 million in emergency contributions.

The United States, on the other hand, has recently trimmed its contribution by \$6.5 million — a move that many UNRWA officials see as sending a clear political message to the Palestinians.

Six million dollars taken from Israel's US aid contribution of \$3 billion wouldn't have made a dent," complains one UNRWA staffer. "For us it's 10 per cent of the US contribution of \$61 million."

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



RUNNING MATES

Republican convention

By Michael Gelb

NEW ORLEANS, (Reuter): As he nears the Republican presidential nomination he first set his sights on nearly 10 years ago, Vice-President George Bush is still struggling to emerge from Ronald Reagan's shadow.

Political experts in both parties, including the vice-president's own strategists, say his Thursday night acceptance speech could be crucial in his effort to establish himself as his own man in voters' eyes.

"His speech will give the American people a chance to look at Bush in an unvarnished manner in which he can convey his views, his beliefs and his criticisms of (Democratic presidential candidate) Michael Dukakis," said Peter Teeley, the top press adviser to Bush for most of the past decade until he left his campaign post in May.

"For the first time, people will see him outside the shadow of Ronald Reagan," he said.

Bush's choice of a vice-presidential running mate, which he plans to announce on Thursday morning, is also regarded by many experts as a key test.

Capable

Teeley called it his first presidential act and one-time Reagan campaign manager John Sears said it is an opportunity to show Bush is capable of finding and picking good men.

Most opinion polls show Bush trailed Massachusetts governor Dukakis by 10 points or more on the eve of the four-day Republican convention, which

Bush's chance to grab spotlight

opened yesterday.

Dukakis got a major boost from the Democratic convention — pulling out in front of Bush by 17 points in several polls that had showed the race even just days before the conclave opened. Republicans hope a strong performance by Bush will give him a comparable boost.

But they are concerned by surveys that show considerable doubt among voters about Bush's leadership skills and his ability to stand up for his beliefs. In the public mind, Bush is regarded largely as a cheerleader for Reagan and a man who changed his own positions on such emotional issues as abortion to agree with his boss. Bush himself once said he followed Reagan blindly.

Stronger

An NBC/Wall Street Journal poll released last Thursday said that by a 52-36 per cent margin voters believe Dukakis is a stronger leader than Bush and would match Reagan in leadership skills. The poll also said Americans believe Bush does not measure up to Reagan on leadership.

Bush, who opposed Reagan for the Republican presidential nomination in 1980 before signing on for eight years as vice president, has been grappling

with the inherent conflict between loyalty to his political patron and establishing his own identity.

Campaign manager James Baker predicted that perceptions will change when the convention is completed.

"He will no longer be seen as the incumbent vice-president exclusively; he will be the nominee of his party. And I think you will see a different situation," Baker said.

The vice-president's aides acknowledge he has suffered in comparison to Reagan and there will be no joint appearances by the two at the convention hall this week.

Meet

They will meet briefly at an outdoor rally today for a symbolic passing of the baton before Reagan departs for his California ranch and leaves the spotlight to Bush.

Reagan, who gave Bush his blessing when he addressed the convention on Monday night, gave a hint on Friday of how the Republicans will deal with Dukakis after the convention when he told a Washington rally that Americans "don't want to gamble on a blind date."

Bush and other Republicans have aimed to capitalise on Dukakis's inexperience in foreign affairs.

By Stephen Hughes

RABAT, (Reuter): Spain's former colony of Western Sahara, the land of the "blue people", is a bleak and almost featureless strip of desert in the western bulge of Africa claimed by Rabat as historically part of Morocco.

After a bitter 12-year desert war, its future depends on the United Nations' ability to organise a referendum to decide whether the people want to be independent or part of Morocco.

New proposals handed to the two sides in the conflict, Morocco and the Polisario guerrilla movement, by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Thursday call for a ceasefire and a referendum. They are to reply by Sept 1.

For centuries the territory has been home to small nomadic tribes who roamed over vast areas in search of meagre pasture for their camel herds and flocks of goats.

They became known as the blue people when a Scottish merchant named Donald McKenzie sold them cheap indigo cloth made in Manchester from a trading post on a rocky islet near the coast.

Dyed

The nomads made flowing robes out of the cotton cloth and, since they rarely washed in a land where water is very scarce, the indigo dyed their skins blue.

McKenzie's trading post was shut down by Sultan Moulay Hassan, the present King Hassan's great-grandfather, on the grounds that the Scot was trespassing on Moroccan territory.

The Moroccans say the incident is one fact proving that Western Sahara has always been considered an integral part of Morocco. Muslim tribes there have also always paid allegiance to Moroccan monarchs revered as descendants of the Holy Prophet Mohammed (PBUH).

In 1975 King Hassan took the issue to the World Court in The Hague which ruled that although some tribes traditionally pledged allegiance to Moroccan monarchs this did not constitute sovereign rights.

The World Court's opinion

Population puzzle in Western Sahara

was that sovereignty should be decided by consulting the local population in application of the principle of self-determination.

But King Hassan decided the court's findings vindicated Moroccan claims.

He organised the "Green March" (green symbolises Islam) and 350,000 unarmed Moroccans waving flags and copies of the Holy Quran were sent into the territory on Nov 6, 1975.

Anxious to avoid a colonial war as Spanish dictator Francisco Franco lay dying, Madrid agreed on Nov 14 to transfer administration of the territory to Morocco and Mauritania which was also laying claim to it.

War

After the last Spanish soldiers left at the end of the following February, guerrillas of the Frente Popular Para la Liberacion de Sakiet el Hamra y Rio de Oro (Polisario) backed by Algeria and Libya began a war of attrition for independence of their self-styled Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR).

The guerrillas eliminated Mauritania whose small Army was unable to resist Polisario raids deep into its territory, twice attacking the capital Nouakchott itself.

In 1980 Morocco annexed Mauritania's part of the desert territory after Nouakchott signed a peace accord with the Polisario. From then on Morocco was alone against Polisario and its backers.

At the 1981 summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in Nairobi, King Hassan proposed a settlement under which the nomads would vote for either independence or integration with Morocco.

The proposal foundered when the SADR was admitted to the OAU summit in 1984 as if it were already an independent state, prompting Morocco to pull out of the pan-African group, protesting that the SADR's

By David R. Schwelberg

BEIJING, (UPI): Lurking outside a special government shop to which few Chinese are admitted, shady characters transact brisk business and signal China's modern entry into the material world.

The store in western Beijing sells quality imports, ostensibly only to Chinese visitors from Taiwan and Hong Kong. They buy duty-free refrigerators, televisions and other scarce items, supposedly only as gifts for local relatives.

Enter the shady characters. Across from the shop, the entrepreneurs began by selling forged admission tickets. Stopped by police, they swiftly shifted to purchasing visitor's unused goods certificates and reselling to cash-flush locals, who then can go inside.

This seemingly brazen defiance is the slightly hidden face of contemporary communism in China. After a decade of economic reforms that endorse free enterprise and private business, seeking an edge in the fledgling free market is no longer a capitalist sin.

Scams

But the country is simultaneously enduring a boom in schemes, scams and swindles. For those willing to play fast and loose, substantial gaps in what the government calls the "socialist commodity economy" are just asking to be filled.

In freewheeling Shenzhen, a "special economic zone" near Hong Kong, two dozen "Buddhist monks" with hand-made gowns were arrested recently when police learned they were actually farmers masquerading as monks.

In southern Guiyang, 200 women complained to authorities that "Sun brand" cosmetics, a face lotion, abruptly darkened their skin. One shocked husband sought a divorce. The fly-by-night manufacturer changed products.

And when a student drowned in a lake in Henan Province last month, local fishermen demanded nearly \$300, his family's entire savings, to search for the body.

"On the one hand, the commodity economy can help improve social morals. But on the other, it contains elements that can hinder healthy moral development," said the official magazine society.

Interests

"In recent years the trend of putting materialistic interests before morality and justice has emerged in Chinese society," it noted. "A trend towards putting the individual first has appeared."

The government has reacted with intermittent crime crackdowns and media criticism, but seems hard put to contain the

freeing of traditional Chinese business acumen from Marxism.

The most criticized offenders today are corrupt officials taking advantage of looser restrictions and personal power, like some caught buying pork at state-controlled prices and reselling the prized meat on the free market.

In Beijing, authorities have set up a "white-collar crime telephone hotline" to catch profiteers. One tip led to the arrest of a businessman who bought 20,000 televisions from a crooked factory boss and sold them privately at huge markups.

Some schemes turn violent. Among those was the most bizarre of a half-dozen cases reported since 1986 of computer crime, another sign of China's modernization.

Conspired

In northern Harbin, a 22-year-old bank teller conspired with an electronics student to use a microcomputer to siphon \$50,000 from a savings bank. The teller then drugged his accomplice and dumped him in a nearby pond. The teller was caught and sentenced to death.

This spring the Public Security Ministry reported that overall crime in 1987 jumped 25 per cent over the previous year, linking the rise to a changing society. More than 10,000 economic crimes were reported in the first four months of 1988.

Yet for most Chinese, the game lies in the gray area between hustle and outright larceny. Most obvious are stallholders in major cities' burgeoning free markets who incessantly chant "change money" to foreigners, paying nearly 2-1 in Chinese yuan for US dollars that can be used to buy imported radios and video recorders.

Gambling, a virtual narcotic among Chinese and reputedly wiped out in the Mao Tse-Tung era, is back. In Beijing alone, police broke up more than 800 major gambling groups this spring.

ملتا من المصلح

On equal terms with their male counterparts

Palestinian women: in the front line

As the uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories continues, Palestinian women take a radical appraisal of their role in the struggle.

by Nadia Hijab

RECOGNITION by an enemy is recognition indeed. In June the Israeli occupation authorities closed down a major Palestinian charity in the West Bank, run by women for women and their families, and serving nearly 15,000 people.

And on July 1 the Israelis cracked down on the more recent popular committee movement, making it illegal for anyone to take part.

Palestinian women are also a major force in the popular movement, whether in women's committees or in medical, agricultural, and neighbourhood committees.

Palestinian women are fully involved in the intifada (uprising) in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, now in its eighth month.

Present attitudes are a far cry from the past. "Honour before land," they said in pre-1948 Palestine, and some families did flee the fighting to protect their women's honour. They did not think this would lead to a 40-year exile from their land.

Today, Palestinian women doctors join their male colleagues in breaking the cur-

few to treat the injured in the villages. As Dr Jumana Odeh puts it: "No one thinks about whether they like it or not; we just have to do it." Their families worry if they are kept out overnight because of clashes, but not about the women's behaviour or honour.

Even the older women's traditional role of homemaker has taken on a political dimension: home-based food production, leading to slow disengagement from the Israeli economy, is a key aim of the uprising. Teaching also carries a new dimension. Mary Khass, a Palestinian educator in Gaza told a recent conference in Oxford that during curfews women arranged home-based education and other activities.

It was especially important, Khass said, to keep the smaller children calm during clashes. They wanted to imitate their older brothers and sisters, but they suffered greatly from fear: "When the Israeli jeeps come, they huddle in a corner, when the jeeps are gone they are heroes." But not all the little ones are frightened.

Last month, a six-year-old girl in Nabulus picked up a handful of stones to throw at a group

of soldiers stationed on the roof of her house. When they ran towards her, she stood her ground. "Why are you attacking us?" the soldiers asked. "Because I want you to leave my house," she said. "It's my house, and your teargas comes into my room. Go away!"

By now, close to 300 Palestinians have been killed by bullets, rubber bullets, beatings or teargas inhalation since the intifada began. Of the dead,

more than 20 are women. And many women have been imprisoned.

Some women, like the journalist Nahida Nazzal, have been gaoled under the notorious "administrative detention" procedures, which effectively allow for six months in prison without trial (thousands of West Bankers and Gazans have been interned under these procedures).

Just how deep-rooted are the

changes in women's roles? Often, women have participated in a war effort or national liberation movements only to find that, at the end of the conflict, they are expected to return to the home to carry out the same traditional tasks (women in Britain have only to think back to the days of the First and Second World Wars).

But this is unlikely to be the case with Palestinian women, because of the way they mobil-

ised before the uprising took place. From the 1920s until the late 1970s over 200 charitable organisations were set up in the West Bank and Gaza, most run and managed by women.

Many of these "traditional" societies were very successful. They served not only as an outlet for women's energies, but also provided badly needed services for deprived sectors of society and income-generating projects for women more

A target of oppression

ON June 20 at 1 a.m. Israeli Army officers hauled a 65-year-old Palestinian grandmother, Samiha Khalil, from her West Bank home and took her to the offices of the charity which she founded and runs.

There, the commanding officer read her a two-year closure order. Mrs Khalil, who founded the Society for the Family (Inaash al-Ustra) 23 years ago, refused to sign the order.

Hours later, the Society's offices and production units were shut down, and only the orphanage and kindergarten were allowed to function—but the kindergarten's kitchens were also sealed and welded shut.

Mrs Khalil herself now faces trial in a military court on charges of incitement and sedition.

The charges are based on material removed during a raid on Inaash al-Ustra offices on June 8, when a curfew was in force and none of the organisation's senior staff were present.

The Army broke into the building terrifying the 123 girls in the orphanage. They confiscated files, documents, and video tapes, breaking down the doors to get in. No receipts were given for the materials, which included an old box of Palestinian flags from before the Israeli occupation of the area.

At a press conference on June 20, the Army accused

"If they close the door in our face, we will enter from the window. If they close the window, we will drill through the roof and enter to continue our path..."

Inaash al-Ustra of "brainwashing" children with anti-semitic propaganda, and of being a "major centre for teaching the slogans and goals of the intifada."

At her own press conference later the same day, Mrs Khalil denied these charges: "We refuse to teach our children any kind of hatred... on the contrary, we extend a hand of friendship to the Jews."

The closure of the Society means economic hardship for nearly 15,000 people. Inaash al-Ustra is the first major charitable institution to be shut down by the occupation authorities.

It was registered as a charity under Jordanian law, the registration being carried over after the Israeli occupation of 1967.

Mrs Khalil has dedicated her life to the Society, at great personal cost. A widow, she has spent years under town arrest, without being charged, and has been unable to travel to see her children, all of whom live abroad.

Two of her children, deported from the Israeli occupation

forces, are not allowed to visit her. She was even unable to attend her son's funeral in the Jordanian capital, Amman, last year.

Still, Mrs Khalil and her colleagues have persevered, building the Society into the institution it is today from modest beginnings in a garage with one used sewing machine and a loan of £200. Now, in addition to some 150 full-time employees, 4,800 women are engaged in embroidery work in their homes for the Society to sell abroad.

Earn

Many women earn nearly half their family's income in this way.

To break the Society's dependence on fund-raising, a biscuit production unit was set up, and soon contributed to the charitable projects like the orphanage. A sewing factory was just about to find its financial feet.

The Society also sponsored many cultural projects, including a Palestinian museum.

Equally important, the Society helps some 1,300 needy families with money each week; they will now be deprived of this vital source of income. Others who will suffer include some 200 women who attend the Society's vocational training programmes.

Mrs Khalil was due to speak at a conference on the West Bank and Gaza in Oxford in



Samiha Khalil: determined

July; she was not allowed out of the country to attend (she has been unable to travel to over 40 conferences during the last eight years).

Her paper was distributed during the conference. In it she makes no secret of her belief in the justice of the Palestinian cause, and her determination to carry on.

"If they close the door in our face, we will enter from the window; if they close the window, we will drill through the roof and enter to continue our path," she said.

"They may refuse to give us permits, or allow us to bring in money; they may impose black-outs on the media and the press; and they may limit and even prevent our movement. But we firmly believe that the people's determination will overcome any repression."



Palestinian women demonstrate with their menfolk against the Israeli defence minister.

egalitarian in outlook.

The new women's committees reached out to villages and refugee camps, but tried not to impose irrelevant urban models on the women from these areas.

Response

Rather, women were invited to develop a local response to the problems they faced. The villagers and refugee camp women then formed their own committees, sending representatives to the head committee.

Over the last decade, a three-fold message has reached women through these committees: organise to improve your societies, organise to protect your rights in the family, and organise for national liberation.

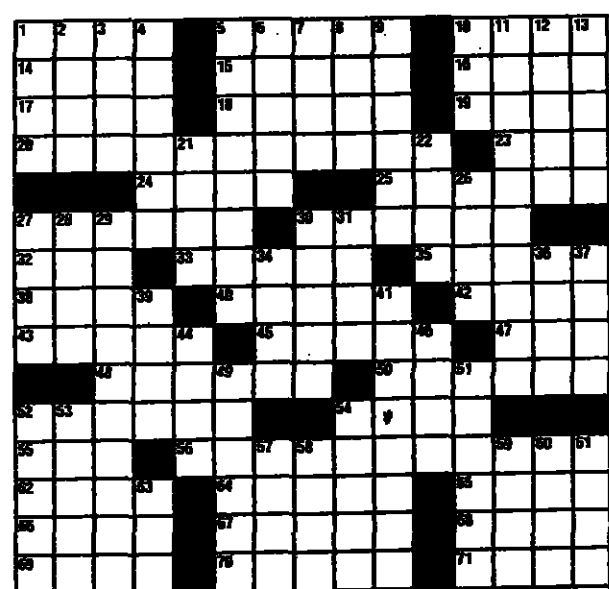
As one of the women puts it: "If a woman is going to participate only in the national struggle, she'll have to start at square one after liberation." The uprising has also been

characterised by unprecedented unity, the groundwork for which was also laid over the past decade. For example, women from the new committees co-ordinated with the older charities, although their approaches differed.

It is this spirit of co-ordination and self-reliance that has enabled the West Bank and Gaza Palestinians to sustain a high level of what is effectively a non-violent struggle (only four Israelis have been killed in intifada-related incidents). In spite of the Israeli claim that the uprising is over, there are at least 50 clashes and demonstrations a week coupled with regular all-out strikes.

One West Banker summed up the women's view: "We are struggling against the occupation at the same time as we struggle against a certain male domination. We are not prepared to return to things as they were before."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Sunbather?
 - 5 Saxon's start
 - 10 Statutes
 - 14 Arabic letter
 - 15 Waffle topper
 - 16 Colonial Virginia
 - 17 Musical sign
 - 18 Net
 - 19 Leading witness
 - 20 Blow one's top
 - 23 House or top
 - 24 "— of the D'Urbervilles"
 - 25 Pond
 - 27 Creeping, in the garden
 - 30 Yellowstone attraction
 - 32 Indonesian islands
 - 33 Caruso's voice
 - 35 Repeat, in music
 - 38 Overlook
 - 40 Andree —
 - 42 Lose weight, British style
 - 43 Money, in Juarez
 - 45 100 make a pound
 - 47 "The Greatest"
 - 48 Disturbed the kennel
 - 50 Red wine
 - 52 Bean drink
 - 54 Where Anna taught
 - 55 G.I.'s address
 - 56 Gumshoe's game
 - 62 Fracas
 - 64 Rajah's wife
 - 65 Genuine
 - 66 Hip
 - 67 White sale purchase
 - 68 Seaweed
 - 69 For fear that
- DOWN**
- 70 Paddock sound
 - 71 Part of Cessus' look
 - 28 Buffalo's lake
 - 29 Avoids the issue
 - 30 Like some skirts
 - 31 Name for a colleen
 - 34 Slangy reply
 - 36 Aswan's river
 - 37 Neglect
 - 39 Thirst, in Nice
 - 41 Mishap
 - 44 Build on — (in hope of selling)
 - 46 Ancient kingdom
 - 49 Divers' objectives
 - 51 Lacking virtue
 - 52 Old round dance
 - 53 Suppose
 - 54 Scoff
 - 57 Tin foil for mirrors
 - 58 — Domini
 - 59 River in Zaire
 - 60 The Forsytes' story
 - 61 Enthusiasm
 - 63 Wee one

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
GOOD DEFENSE WINS THE DAY

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A J 9
 ♥ A K Q 10 9 5
 ♦ 3
 ♣ A 10 7

EAST
 ♠ Q 7 3
 ♥ 4 3
 ♦ A K 10 7 6 2
 ♣ Q 6 5 3 2

SOUTH
 ♠ 8 6 5 4 2
 ♥ 8 7
 ♦ Q J 9
 ♣ J 8 4

The bidding:
 West North East South
 1 ♦ Dbl Pass 1 ♠
 Pass 3 ♥ Pass 3 NT
 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: ♠

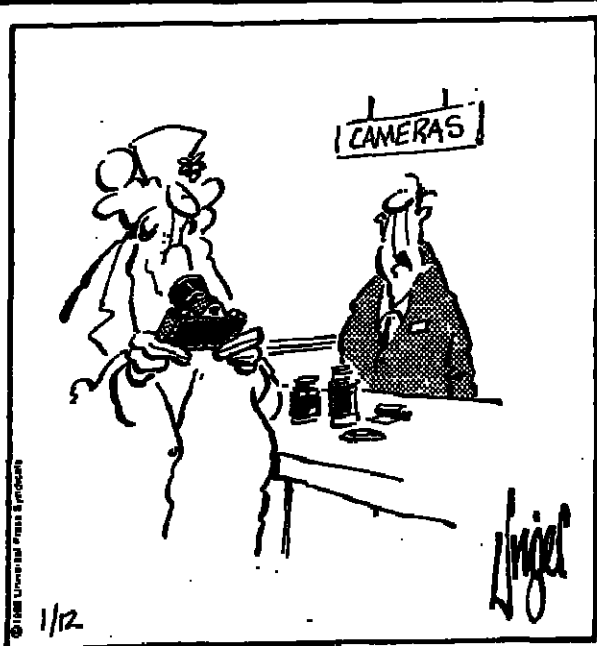
Listen to the bidding. If it tells you that the opponents have just about enough tricks to make their contract, avoid making an opening lead that might present them with a trick.

North's takeout double followed by a jump in a new suit at the three-level showed a hand that expected to take almost nine tricks on its own. While it was not 100 percent forcing, South decided to convert to three no trump on the strength of

his stopper in opener's suit. Sitting West was one of the most popular lecturers on Royal Viking Line bridge cruises, internationalist Ron Von der Porten. He feared, correctly, that a low diamond lead would present declarer with his game-going trick, so he chose to look elsewhere for his opening salvo. He decided that the card least likely to cost a trick was the king of spades!

Declarer won the ace and ran six hearts, discarding three spades and a club from hand. East echoed in clubs and also discarded a spade and a diamond while West let go three diamonds. South could still have made the contract by leading a spade, since the opposing spades were now 2-2 but, convinced that West had crossed his mind. Instead, he led a diamond to the queen. Von der Porten took his king and continued his fine defense by exiting with the king of clubs. That assured the defenders of five tricks—one in each black suit and three diamonds when East was able to push a diamond through declarer's J-9.

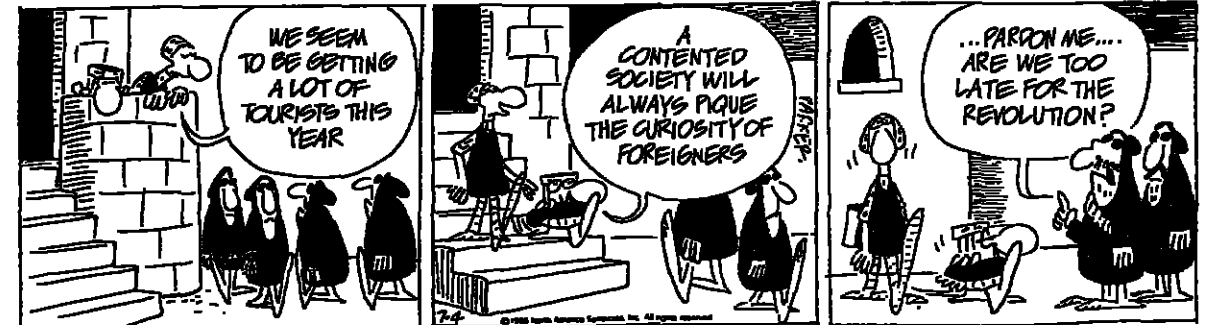
While we admire West's handiwork, let's not forget to pat East on the back for his thoughtfulness in signalling in clubs to show possession of a high card.



"You'll need a wide-angle lense for portraits."

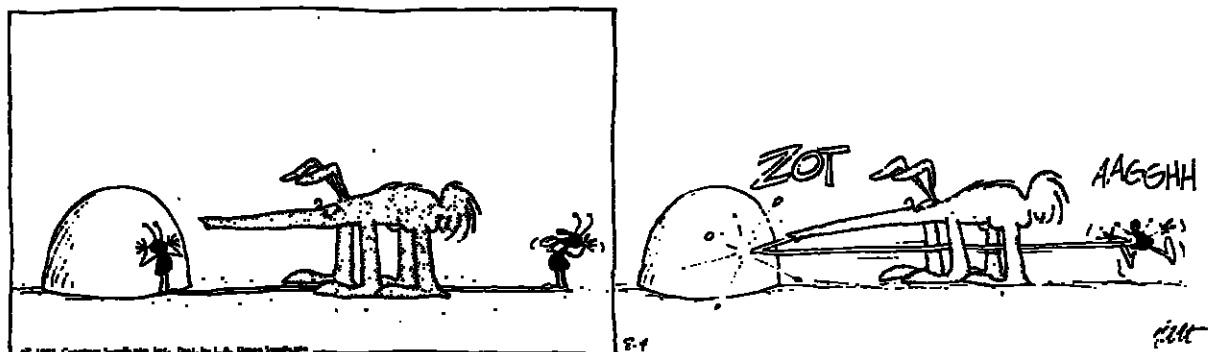
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will be able to have a pleasant day. You should think a little longer before deciding on what to do. Do not be so fond of the sound of your own voice. Be considerate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be able to have a pleasant day but you must try hard not to get in other people's way. You will be able to make up for lost time. Be generous.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Nothing will proceed quite as you would wish today. You should take extra care whatever you are about. You should not ask for more than you know you deserve. Be objective.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will be able to have a good laugh at yourself. Your emotional life will be a little more disturbed and you must do your best to keep calm. You should not allow your attention to stray. Be cordial.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

The general prospects are good but you should beware of taking any extreme risks. You should concentrate hard on what you are doing. Make sure your partner has no real cause for complaint.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You should avoid exaggerating or going to extremes. You must beware of acting on hearsay or on out of date information. Do what you can to overcome a certain amount of stress and tension. Be reasonable.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

There will be some moments of uncertainty but before long you will regain your normal poise. You should do all you can to avoid needless complications. Try not to allow yourself to get into a rut. Be sensible.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You are liable to confuse what is important with what is not so important. Something will occur that will help to raise your spirits. You will tend to underestimate the difficulties and should take appropriate measures. Be observant.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will tend to tire rather easily and should make sure you are getting enough rest. You should do all you can to avoid getting into a muddle. Listen a little more attentively to what others are saying. Be more patient.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

This is going to be an interesting and rewarding day for you. You will be able to get more done than you thought possible. You should avoid doing the first thing that comes to your mind. Be tolerant.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You will not be able to do just what you would like to do. However, if you make a few adjustments all will be well for you. Do not dwell too much on the past. Be amenable.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

If you exercise just a little more patience you will be well rewarded for doing so. You should not allow some secondary matter to take up too much of your time. See to it that you get regular and none too energetic exercise. Be optimistic.

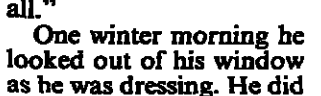
Auntie Joanne

The poor children had now nowhere to play. They tried to play on the road, but the road was very dusty and full of hard stones, and they did not like it. They used to wander round the high walls when their lessons were over, and talk about the beautiful garden inside. "How happy we were there!" they said to

it must be the king's musicians passing by. It was really only a little linnets singing outside his window, but it was so long since he had heard a bird sing in his garden that it seemed to him to be the

And the giant's heart melted as he looked out. "How selfish I have been!" he said; "now I know why the spring would not come here. I will put that poor little boy on the top of the

"We don't know," answered the children; "he has gone away."



And when the children ran in that afternoon, they found the giant lying dead under the tree, all covered with white blossoms.

A hexagonal grid of 37 cells, each containing a number from 1 to 9. The cell containing the number 4 is highlighted with a thick black border.

Name all these animals and fill in the crossword

The crossword puzzle grid is composed of white squares for letters and black squares for empty space. The starting positions for the words are indicated by numbers in small circles:

- 1**: Top right, starting at the top-right corner.
- 2**: Middle right, starting at the square below the one above it.
- 3**: Top middle, starting at the square to the left of the one above it.
- 4**: Middle left, starting at the square to the left of the one to its right.
- 5**: Bottom left, starting at the square to the left of the one above it.
- 6**: Bottom middle, starting at the square to the left of the one above it.

The silhouettes of the animals are placed around the crossword grid:

- 1**: Elephant, positioned at the bottom right.
- 2**: Bat, positioned in the middle right.
- 3**: Donkey, positioned at the bottom left.
- 4**: Giraffe, positioned at the top left.
- 5**: Kangaroo, positioned at the middle right.
- 6**: Hippopotamus, positioned at the bottom middle.

Solution on Thursday

Solution on Thursday

A collection of 20 simple line drawings of various objects. The objects include: a sun with rays, a shoe, a key, a bag, a bar of soap with the word 'SOAP' on it, a star, a boot, a bearded man wearing a hat, a ship, a chevron symbol, a bird, a seal, a sock, a ball of yarn, a bird, a book, and a pencil.

1.
3973743623 47 2 4663
8322437 2322873 84373 273
66 37676887.

2.
3743637447 47 2
73776674245489, 668 26
67767886489.

Solution on Thursday

Solution on Thursday

What can you serve but never eat?
A tennis ball

A fully grown human brain weighs about 3 lbs.

Solution to last Thursday's coded message: You will find the secret treasure hidden in the old windmill.

A collection of 12 simple line drawings of various objects. The objects include: a memo pad with the word 'MEMO' on the top edge; a corn on the cob; a party hat with a pom-pom; a cow's head with a pacifier in its mouth; a box of 'DAIRY FRESH' salted butter; a dog sitting down; a mug; a pipe; a rooster; a padlock; and a door handle.

Pair off the picture names to make six bigger words.

THE SHORTEST PLAY ON RECORD IS SUGARBY BY JAMES BICCKETT (16.9 APRIL 1906). IT HAS NO DIALOGUE, NO ACTING AND LASTS FOR 35 SECONDS, CONSISTING ONLY OF REPEATED HUMANA GRUES AND BREATHS.

THE LONGEST PLAY-TITLE IS THE RESCUATION AND ASSASSINATION OF MARAT AS PERFORMED BY THE AMATEURS OF CHARENTON UNDER THE CHALET OF LAUSANNE OF 1846. IT WAS GIVEN BY THE MARAT COMPANY AT THE ALDWICK THEATRE, LONDON, IN 1914.

IN THE SAME YEAR THE COMPANY ALSO PRESENTED A PLAY WITH ONE OF THE SHORTEST TITLES EVER, 617 BY HENRI VIVINGS. (6.20 SEPT 1924).

EH? How should I know?

GOLF WAS INCLUDED IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES OF 1900 AND 1904. GEORGE LUND (1904-1905/1906/1907) WON THE GOLD MEDAL. ASSED 44ERS 59 BRITS ALTHOUGH HE HAVEN'T TAKEN UP THE SPORT UNTIL HE WAS 38.

RUGBY UNION WAS AN OLYMPIC SPORT ON FOUR OCCASIONS DURING THIS CENTURY. THE ONLY COUNTRY TO WIN GOLD MORE THAN ONCE WAS THE UNITED STATES IN 1900 AND 1904. THE OTHER WINNERS WERE FRANCE (1900) AND AUSTRALIA (1908).

THE ONLY OCCASION THAT CRICKET WAS PLAYED AT THE OLYMPICS WAS IN 1900 WHEN GREAT BRITAIN, REPRESENTED BY THE BRITON MEMBERS CC, BEAT A FRENCH TEAM IN A 12-A-SIDE MATCH. BRITAIN WON 117 AND 118. THE FRENCH SCORE OF 73 AND 26.

Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

More loans needed to finance reconstruction projects

Iraq's trading partners may help ease its \$60b debt burden

By Jadranka Porter

IRAQ'S special trading and political relationships with its major trading partners and friendly Arab states may help ease the country's debt burden estimated at \$60 billion, according to analysts in Baghdad.

They say that Arab states which have supported Iraq's war effort as well as Eastern bloc countries may not push for immediate repayment of outstanding debts.

Caution

Iraq will need additional loans to finance reconstruction projects in the post-war period.

Western diplomats in Baghdad who have been advising their governments to exercise caution but not abstention from Iraq's market, suspect that very little if any of the estimated \$35 billion Iraq owes to Arab countries will be repaid or is expected by creditor countries.

The analysts believe that the Arab states may write off the debt as an investment in war effort. If Iraq was to generate maximum revenues to repay its Arab creditors it would have to maximise its oil production. This, in turn, would have a disastrous effect on oil prices, hurting other Arab OPEC members.

Although the debt to the

Soviet bloc creditors, estimated to be in excess of \$5 billion, will have to be repaid eventually observers believe that terms of repayment will show some flexibility.

Debts

Iraqi debts owed to the Soviet Union, Baghdad's military equipment supplier, and the Eastern bloc will probably be repaid in oil and would therefore be less painful and less pressing than foreign currency transfers to OECD countries.

Baghdad also appears to have taken particular care not to alienate Britain. Iraq made orderly and timely payments of principal and interest and even refrained

from taking up maximum credit offered by the Western power.

Britain, which enjoys a long-term relationship with Iraq, was one of the first countries to grant Baghdad a loan in 1984 and has continued to offer new loans. The latest is a credit line of £175 million made available in September 1987.

Exports

Total Iraqi medium term debt to the United Kingdom is estimated at \$1.4 billion. The volume of Britain's exports to Iraq has fallen in keeping with overall reduction in Iraqi exports, say the analysts. They point out that the drop in Britain's exports is offset by a

comfortable trading and credit relationship between the two countries based on manageable levels of debt.

Analysts note that several countries have been able to reschedule and in some cases clear up entirely various outstanding payments. Baghdad met its commitments toward New Zealand by repaying on time last April \$30 million representing Iraq's total debt to that country.

Credits

If payments to Sweden and Holland proceed as scheduled new credits will be forthcoming from both of these countries. Austria, however, continued to

offer new credits despite outstanding amounts totalling about \$100 million.

Confidence in Iraq's ability to repay loans offered in 1983/84 faltered in 1986 when Baghdad failed to meet some of its commercial obligations, missing interest payments and defaulting letters of credit. Vast imports and an unfounded hope at the time of an early end to the Gulf war forced the country into a position of impartial insolvency and its commercial partners to reconsider trade with the Arab states.

Since then Iraq has taken measures to set its economic house in order and has improved its payment position.

Petrofina group net profit up 10.3pc

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Aug 15, (AP): Petrofina SA, the Belgian oil company and the country's largest industrial group, yesterday reported a consolidated net profit for the first half of 1988 of 10.8 billion francs (\$450 million), up 10.3 per cent from the same 1987 period.

In a statement, it credited the increase to growth in its petrochemicals business in Europe and the United States.

It said profits from oil production fell in the first half due to a drop in oil prices and a slide in the dollar's value. It gave no details.

Petrofina also said it plans to make a bonus share issue to its stockholders based on one new share for 10 shares held. The new shares will be eligible for a dividend on 1988 earnings.

A special shareholders meeting has been called for Aug 30 to decide on the bonus share issue.

Profit

In 1987, Petrofina's net profit fell 4.4 per cent to 17.4 billion francs (\$438.5 million), mainly because of revenue declines in refining.

Analysts said the 1988 first-half profit showed a favourable trend pointing to more growth for the rest of the year.

Petrofina stock has posted large gains this year amid rumours of a mystery buyer. In June, its share price shot past 130 Belgian francs (\$325). It closed on Friday at 12,650 francs (\$316.25).

Petrofina said its output of crude oil and natural gas rose by 2 and 5 per cent respectively during the first half. It found two North Sea oil fields and bought oil concessions in Alaska, the Gulf of Mexico, Vietnam, Syria, Gabon and Norway.

Deutsche Bank to open branch in Delhi

BOMBAY, Aug 15: Deutsche Bank, the largest bank from West Germany, will open its branch in Delhi shortly, reports Economic Times.

This is the second branch of the bank in India, the first in Bombay operating for the past eight years.

Deutsche Bank taking a march over several other foreign banks wanting to open their branches in the country is, indeed, a "coup" say banking sources here.

There are representative offices of all these banks in India for the past several years and, yet, they have been unable to upgrade these offices into full-fledged branches.

Relations

Deutsche Bank expanding its operations in India follows the desire of both the countries to intensify their economic relations with each other as emphasised by the visit of the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to West Germany recently and the largest over technology exhibition from West Germany, TechnoGerm, held by any country in India in February this year. West Germany has sought the "fast track" approach to investment in India and it is keen to enlarge on its existing industrial tie-ups in this country, say these sources.

Deutsche Bank had come to India in 1980 with the opening of a branch of European Asian Bank in Bombay, in which Deutsche Bank had an equal shareholding along with six other European banks. In 1985, Deutsche Bank Asia, a DB subsidiary took a major shareholding in Euras Bank following the withdrawal of some of the banks from the consortium. Last year, Deutsche Bank Asia merged with Deutsche Bank AG, the parent bank, and the Bombay branch as become the full-fledged branch of the West German bank.

Economy growing at a non-inflationary pace

Japan under pressure to raise interest rates

TOKYO, Aug 15: Among the economic superpowers, only Japan has resisted raising official interest rates recently. But the pressure on Japanese monetary authorities is building, reports the Wall Street Journal.

Economists and other analysts here say the US Federal Reserve Board's decision last Tuesday to boost its discount rate by half a percentage point to 6.5 per cent is the latest and strongest in a sequence of factors that eventually could prompt the Bank of Japan to raise its own discount rate. Some predicted an increase could come later this month if the dollar continues to soar.

A discount rate is the interest central banks apply on loans to financial institutions. While shifts in a discount rate often lag interbank or commercial interest-rate changes, they are an important indicator of the long-term direction of interest rates.

For now, market watchers said the monetary policy of the Bank of Japan, the country's central bank, is focused predominantly on exchange rates and the possible inflationary effect that could result from a decline in the value of the yen.

Most Japan's imports are denominated in dollars, and any increase in the dollar's value could translate to higher prices at home.

Increase

The dollar already is hovering just below its 1988 high of 135.70 yen. Economists said that if it moves significantly above that level, it could force the Bank of Japan to consider raising its official rates, to complement a recent but gradual tightening of interbank rates. Helped by news of the US discount-rate increase, the dollar finished on Wednesday in Tokyo at 134.92 yen, up

1.34 yen.

Officially, Japan's monetary stance remains restrained. Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who has opposed Bank of Japan intervention to support the yen, said after the US rate-increase that he sees no need for a shift in Japan's monetary policy.

The Fed's rate increase, which brings the US discount rate to its highest level in more than two years, caught Japanese financial markets off-guard. "Nobody predicted this," said Richard C. Koo, an economist at Nomura Securities Co.'s research unit.

Action

Despite the fresh impetus provided by the Fed's rate increase, however, many analysts believe Japanese authorities have ample room to manoeuvre without resorting to a discount-rate increase. Still, if Japan does go that route, according to Teruo Shinato, a money-

market economist at Fuji Bank, the Fed's action clears away a possible obstacle to a matching move by Japan. Since last October's stock-market crash, Japanese authorities have been wary of leading the US in official rate increases for fear of aggravating market jitters.

Threat

Such worries haven't prevented West Germany, Britain and the US from boosting their rates recently, mainly because domestic inflation concerns have loomed larger for them than for Japan.

Aside from the inflationary threat that could be posed by a significantly weaker yen, the most crucial condition is the widening gap between short-term money market and interbank rates and Japan's official discount rate, which has stood at 2.5 per cent since April 1987. On

Wednesday, the Bank of Japan allowed money brokers to raise the one-month interbank rate 0.125 point to 4.125 per cent. Certificates of deposit with three-month maturities now bear interest of between 4.9 per cent and 5 per cent, and Japan's economy is growing at a non-inflationary pace. During the first half of the year, according to estimates by Nomura, the economy grew 7.3 per cent, while consumer prices edged up only about 0.5 per cent.

Despite the economic reasons for an official rate increase, analysts said Japanese politicians may have reasons for opposing higher rates. The government now is promoting a major tax package that includes a 3 per cent consumption tax.

Higher interest rates will tighten money supply and could make the tax harder for small-business men to take.

BP to begin new exploration drive in Iran

UK interests likely to do best in Iraq

LONDON, Aug 15, (KUNA): British companies could take a substantial share of the vast trading opportunities which would open as Iran and Iraq start a reconstruction programme to repair the ravages of the war, according to a report published here today.

The prediction comes from Middle East trade experts as international and multi-lateral companies race to seize the new trading opportunities, the Times newspaper said.

Orders

It pointed out that Iran has invited British companies to take part in Tehran's trade fair starting on September 13.

It is expected that more than 20 British companies will attend and among them are likely to be

electrical generating machinery makers, the paper added.

In the meantime, the Baghdad fair later in the year is expected to take about 45 British companies to Iraq seeking orders, double the number at the fair last year.

The trade experts predicted that British interests are likely to do best in Iraq because of the business links that have been maintained during the eight-year war, and help which has been given including substantial lines of credit.

However, they also believe that there would be still significant trading with Iran in the post-war era.

British exports to Iraq last year were worth £270 million compared with a pre-war £623 million in 1981.

Britain had 10 per cent of the Iraqi market last year.

UK exports to Iran were worth even more at £300 million for 1987, compared with £400 million in 1981.

The Times noted that the first priority for both countries would be the restoration of oil production capacity, where damage to the nation's oil industry and help restore its oil revenues, the Times added.

BP said that Iran would once again play a role in its exploration programme.

In addition, the oil giant could in future also move into Iraq, where Britoil, the Glasgow-based exploration company, now part of BP, once had exploration ambitions, the paper said.

Relations

In a related development, it was also revealed that a restoration of full relations between Britain and Iran could mean that BP, Britain's biggest company,

will begin a new exploration programme in the country that was once its main centre of activities.

BP which developed the oil assets of Iran and later saw them nationalised, still has "a large bank of information" about the geology of the Iran oilfields, which could be used to revitalise the nation's oil industry and help restore its oil revenues, the Times added.

BP said that Iran would once again play a role in its exploration programme.

In addition, the oil giant could in future also move into Iraq, where Britoil, the Glasgow-based exploration company, now part of BP, once had exploration ambitions, the paper said.

Iraq reopens trade centre in Dubai

DUBAI, Aug 15, (Reuters): Iraq is reopening its trade centre in Dubai, closed three years ago after a series of Iranian attacks on ships in the Gulf, an Iraqi embassy official said yesterday.

He said the centre was resuming its activities as the Gulf war ceasefire set for August 20 was expected to enable Iraqi-flag vessels to sail through the Gulf for the first time since the war broke out eight years ago.

Dubai's re-exports to Iraq were worth 42 million dirhams (\$11 million) in 1987 compared with its re-exports to Iran of 1.3 billion dirhams (\$354 million).

World Business Summary

Fed move right for economy, says Baker

WASHINGTON, Aug 15, (Reuters): Treasury Secretary James Baker said today the Federal Reserve Board's increase in the discount rate last Tuesday was the right move to preserve economic growth and hold down inflation. Baker, asked in a television interview about the half-point increase to 6.5 per cent, said: "The Federal Reserve has done a good job in preserving the balance — which, after all, is their fundamental responsibility — between maintaining growth on the one hand and being vigilant against inflation on the other." He added: "I think that's what they were doing this week." Baker is to leave the Treasury post this week to head Vice-President George Bush's presidential campaign. The increase in the discount rate, which the board said was made to reduce inflationary pressures, was unexpected as it came just a few months before the presidential election and analysts said it may hurt Bush's chances against his Democratic rival Michael Dukakis. The Fed's action has been followed by private bank rate increases and is expected to trigger higher interest rates for consumers buying home and cars. Despite these effects, Baker said that "in the medium and long term it (the Fed action) will be a very good thing for the American economy and permit us to continue this very successful expansion without inflation well into next year."

Jordan takes measures to boost investments

AMMAN, Aug 15, (Reuters): Jordan said yesterday it had taken steps to encourage investment and boost exports and had eased protectionist measures on several local commodities. A statement from the prime minister's office said bans on importing some locally-produced goods, including food products, detergents, and batteries, would be lifted and replaced with import tariffs. Import bans would be retained on some other items, including tomato paste, tobacco, fresh milk and cheese, mineral water and salt. The statement said the cabinet had also decided to offer tax incentives for investment in productive fields. A special department would be created in the Trade Ministry to deal with investment inquiries by local and foreign businesses. The cabinet asked the Central Bank and the Finance Ministry to prepare a draft law on export guarantees and to study the feasibility of providing credit to Arab and foreign exporters of Jordanian goods. Jordan's main exports include potash, phosphates, glass, eggs, and processed food.

South-East Asian producers to co-ordinate on oil prices

JAKARTA, Aug 15, (Reuters): Ministers from Indonesia, Brunei and Malaysia will meet on the Indonesian resort island of Bali next Saturday to discuss closer co-operation between the three South-East Asian oil producers, officials said today. "I will look into the possibility whether the three countries can set up a co-ordination forum, not necessarily an organisation, but just a consultation forum," Indonesian Energy Minister Guntur Kartasmita told reporters. He said it was Indonesia's job, as part of contacts by Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries with non-OPEC producers, to meet Brunei and Malaysia. "The three of us will meet in Bali to discuss the current development in oil prices. ... We will also discuss how to promote co-operation between OPEC and non-OPEC producers effectively, and the co-operation between the three South-East Asian oil exporters," Guntur said, who is a member of OPEC's five-member price committee, said.

Belgium slashes budget deficit

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Aug 15, (AP): The centre-left government reached an agreement in principle to further reduce the budget to 7 per cent of gross national product next year, officials said today. Under the accord, the 1989 budget deficit should not exceed 403 billion francs (\$10.1 billion), forcing the government to issue new austerity measures totalling 66 billion francs (\$1.65 billion). No details of the new budgetary measures will be available until Prime Minister Wilfried Martens has informed King Baudouin on the final text on Monday. Martens, who has been seeking to slash the deficit from 13 per cent of GNP to 7 per cent since 1982, has led a centre-right coalition before leading the current coalition of Socialist and Christian Democrats — both split in Dutch and French-speaking parties — and a Dutch-speaking autonomy party since the spring.

Reliance Investors Conference ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Reliance Petrochemicals Ltd. Investors Conference, scheduled to be held on the 16th of August 1988, has been postponed.

Please watch your local press for the announcement of the new date and in the meanwhile, kindly retain your invitation cards.

The inconvenience caused is regretted.

Tamariz pledges support for OPEC

QUITO, Aug 15, (OPECNA): Ecuador's new Energy and Mines Minister Diego Tamariz yesterday pledged his country's full support for OPEC in his first public speech since appointment.

"Our intentions is to seek unity within OPEC. We believe in the organisation and will do everything we can to strengthen it," news agency reports quoted the minister as saying.

Tamariz, a banker, was appointed to the post under the new social democratic government of Rodrigo Borja, who was

sworn in as the country's President on Wednesday.

The new minister, who replaces Dr Fernando Santos-Alvite, is a former employee of the Energy and Mines Ministry's hydrocarbons directorate.

He also worked in the marketing department of the Houston offices of Cepe, the Ecuadorian state oil company.

Tamariz, who trained as a chemical engineer, holds a master's degree in business administration from Harvard University.

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NE CLOSE OPEN

CHARL	72/9	12/9
ALLICE	74/9	12/9
GO GROUP	112/8	11/4
PORTS	228/20	532/2
B.ELECT	440/0	433/3
GE KENT	90/0	90/0
H MID	275/0	276/0
JOHNSTON	39/0	38/0
WEST	359/0	355/5
EX WKRG	169/0	168/0
EXON	383/0	377/7
LD IR B	249/0	248/0
LD LDW	129/0	130/0
LD PLNT	60/0	61/0
LANCE	846/0	843/3
TR TRST	127/0	126/0
BERNAN	62/3	61/9
HLTHC	252/0	253/3
GOLO S/O	209/0	209/0
SABASCHER	90/0	88/0
PLEYARD	489/0	488/0
W P LC	124/0	125/0
AL	118/0	118/0
AL	77/0	77/0
AL ENRG	141/0	141/0
AL	143/0	141/0
AL	173/0	173/0
AL	114/0	112/0
AL	31/6	32/7
AL	281/0	280/0
AL	278/0	284/0
AL	378/0	380/0
AL	740/0	740/0
AL	82/0	82/0
AL	266/0	267/0
AL	232/0	235/0
AL	72/0	72/0
AL	137/0	140/0
AL	175/0	178/0
AL	29/4	30/0
AL	47/4	50/0
AL	63/0	65/0
AL	235/0	235/0
AL	219/0	218/0
AL	190/0	190/0
AL	170/0	170/0
AL	181/0	181/0
AL	409/0	410/0
AL	393/0	392/0
AL	16/2	15/4
AL	36/0	35/0

0 38/0 RIT CP.I
0 315/0 ROBINSON
0 123/0 ROCKFORD
0 286/0 ROCKLAND

270/0	ROTTSCHN
269/0	KOTHACK
179/0	RUGEROIN
114/0	KRUEBY G
98/0	S.S., GP
230/0	SABA, GR
189/0	SALVESSE
190/0	SAVILLE
356/0	SCOT REE
413/0	SCOT I.
51/0	SCOT NE
128/0	SCOT MO
129/0	SCOT NAT
356/0	SCT NAT
348/0	SECS TST
53/0	SELECT
35/0	SHERATOX
52/0	SIMON EF
384/0	SINGER&S
366/0	SMITH D
110/0	SMITH W
306/0	SMURFIT
306/0	SOUND DI
250/0	SON, O&G
265/0	SPONG HI
175/0	SPRING R
168/0	SPRIG-S
277/0	STAKIS
180/0	STEELY
263/0	STEELY
244/0	STEVLY H
150/0	T. TEES
236/0	TELEMETE
54/0	TELETYPE
402/0	TEMPLE
34/0	THAMES
35/0	THROGHT
29/0	TIE GROUN
510/0	TIE RACRE
635/0	TOKINS
410/0	TOZER KI
216/0	TR CITY
164/0	TR PAS
178/0	TR TRACI
149/0	TRAINMO
234/0	TRAVES&
95/0	TRINOCO
203/0	TRIPLEK
198/0	TRIMMO
158/0	TRSPRT.
248/0	TURRIFF
156/0	TU SN HI
810/0	TYNDALL
433/0	U-BORLA
347/0	U-BRD ST
347/0	U-CITTYW
347/0	U-CITTYW
347/0	U-DEAF
148/0	U-DEAF

NEW YORK

COM	29/6	29/6
IC R	81/0	82/1
RP	23/4	23/5
LAB	44/5	43/0
CLVRO	0	10/2
CON	12/1	12/2
LAB	71/6	71/7
LIFE	0	47/4
CHN	15/3	15/4
DN	42/2	42/3
AIR	18/0	17/7
B-16	0	81/0
THAND	29/0	29/0
AND	25/1	25/2
PRO	46/6	47/6
PRO	26/5	26/6
PRO	75/5	75/7
PRO	79/5	79/7
DARD	0	71/7
RES	49/1	49/2
TREL	25/3	25/5
CORP	75/4	75/5
C	43/3	43/3
PIPP	0	12/7
RP	42/2	42/5
IN CO	32/4	32/5
MA	28/7	28/5
CP	71/7	71/6
PET	22/6	22/1
ONG	35/1	35/4
ACIF	32/4	33/2
RP	6/6	6/6
CHN	33/0	33/2
INIC	20/4	20/4
WNC	20/4	20/6
RDOCS	23/5	23/6
C	30/0	30/0
UTH	40/0	40/2
FEEL	21/7	22/0
0	6/0	6/0
STON	47/4	47/4
ASTA	24/4	24/4
NEWYORK	34/5	34/4
NY	36/4	36/5
CO	14/0	14/0
SP	5/7	6/1
CON	40/3	41/6
C	10/3	10/3
GSD	51/6	52/0
R	28/7	29/0
ESTR	40/4	40/6
CON	30/0	30/1
CHYK	41/6	42/0
CP	13/4	13/4
CHYK	12/5	12/4
CHYK	36/7	36/7
IS	25/3	25/4
WG	20/5	20/4

40/6 MERRITT
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52/2 MESA OFFSH
47/2 MOBIL OIL
31/6 MONSANTO

462	HORGAN J
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51	MOTROLA
50/4	HRSH-NCLN
40/2	MURPHY OI
10/6	NAT INTERG
29/7	HBI CORP
49/6	NEU ENG EL
45/6	NEU PLA RE
48/6	NEWELL CO
20/4	NEWMONT W
30/2	NEWMARK GLD
35/0	N: KONGS-10
75/8	NI HORT-72
21	NICOLET IN
12/0	NI INDS
47/2	NOBLE OFF
57/7	NORSESCU
14/4	NORTHROP
26/5	NOVO IND
24/2	NOVA CORP
31/5	OKC INDS
25/5	OCN PETRCP
15/5	OCEANO DRIL
42/3	OSDEN CORP
28/6	CH ED CO
29/4	OLIN CORP
26/7	ONICARE
35/2	ORION PICT
41/2	PAINTE WE
21/0	PAN AM
45/1	PANHANDLE
49/2	PARK ELECT
35/4	PARKER DRI
31/4	PARKER MAN
13/7	PARKER PET
14/4	PATCO INC
27/3	PULLMAN CO
26/1	PC 108-96
167/5	PENN CENTR
17/4	PENNHILL
26/1	PENNZOIL
26/4	PEOPLES EN
167/5	PEPSICO
61/6	PFIZER
39/7	PHILIPS DOD
16/6	PHILIPS PE
118/0	PHILIPS PR
33/5	PILLSBURY
6/4	PINNACLE W
8/6	PITB-BOMES
28/5	PITCON
28/5	PLANT GE
36/7	PRIME CORP
	PRIME INMS
	PRIMERICA
	PROCT-GAMB

PPR	36/4	36/4
VS	12/7	13/1
IK CO	25/0	25/1
AM CO	53/6	54/1
BN	13/2	13/1

ROE	35/77	36/77
ROE	35/77	36/77
PAC	18/15	18/15
HUTT	23/33	23/33
TRN	71/70	71/70
LOU	51/1	51/1
INT	9/10	9/10
BE	46/1	46/1
WIC	34/5	34/5
CAP	37/1	37/1
ERN	21/4	21/4
FUND	10/3	10/3
D	13/2	13/2
	49/5	49/5
CONT	33/1	33/1
	56/4	56/4
RAUD	51/0	50/0
MIN	21/4	21/4
VAL	16/4	16/4
EST	20/6	20/6
ELL	37/1	37/1
CORP	40/4	40/4
ENWIG	21/7	22/2
NIX	22/3	22/3
CORP	32/14	32/2
ME	15/3	15/3
PET	9/6	9/6
FR	1/3	1/3
	25/5	25/5
IND	42/5	42/5
IND	33/6	34/6
IND	23/4	23/4
NED	20/7	20/7
INTER	6/5	6/5
INT	13/0	13/0
	65/2	65/2
MARK	31/5	31/5
	2/7	2/7
US	37/1	37/1
IO	33/2	33/2
EW	34/2	34/2
EX	6/2	6/2
ERS	35/0	35/0
Y	19/3	19/3
IP	17/3	17/3
WORLD	37/4	37/4
AND	93/4	93/4
CHN	16/7	16/7
CAMP	33/5	33/5
CARS	22/4	22/4
ME	24/0	24/0
T	28/7	28/7
	55/0	55/0
	35/6	35/6

1979-80	PREV-YR	
13.2	1373.3	EURO
12.0	957.6	EURO
1.01	870.22	EVER
.92	88.49	EVOD
.2	302.1	EXPAN
.46	450.65	F&C
14.0	16636	F&C
1.05	115.04	F&C
.51	90.79	FARM
.44	99.08	FED.

ON BRITISH ECONOMIC DATA

FLNG MERC	178/0 1/2
FLNG OSEA	155/0 1/2
FLNG TECH	182/0 1/2
FLNG UNIV	142/0 1/2
FOSECO MI	268/0 2/2
FR GROUP	233/0 2/2
FRESHBAKE	160/0 1/2
FST LEISR	141/0 1/2
FST NAT F	232/0 2/2
FST SCOT	388/0 3/3
FUR & COL	106/0 1/2
GARDINER	50/4
GEEST	263/0 2/2
GEI INTL	142/0 2/2
GESTETNER	224/0 2/2
GOAL PET	115/0 1/2
GPG	52/0 2/2
GRAMPN HD	283/0 2/2
GREEN KING	474/0 4/4
GREENLL W	241/0 2/2
GREYCOAT	432/0 4/4
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INDEX

REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RA

AND

GERMANY
HONG KONG
FINLAND
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NEW ZEAL
NORWAY
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SPAIN
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405/565	FIX
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29	FIX
6100	CLSE
7994	CLSE
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DREYFUS	25/16	25/16
DUCE POWER	43/5	43/5
DUN BRAD	46/4	46/4
DUPONT	82/2	82/4
DUPONT	15/2	15/2
DYNAMICS	23/2	23/2
E SYSTEMS	28/1	28/1
EAGLE PICH	29/4	29/4
EASTERN G	23/5	23/5
EMERSON EL	27/7	28/1
EMERSON RA	3/3	3/4
ETHYL CP	21/6	21/6
EXOX	46/3	46/3
FAN DAL ST	13/2	13/2
FED NAT MO	47/4	47/4
FIEIN CORST	23/4	23/4
FILCO-AM	11	11
FLEEDCO	21/2	21/2
FORD MOTOR	50/0	50/0
FORD HOMAR	51/5	51/5
FOXBORO CO	30/2	30/2
FRCHLD INC	10/3	10/3
FSB BANK	20/7	21/1

Whatever your destination, make sure Commercial Bank

Commercial Bank of Canada

NYSE HIGHEST VOLUME		AMEX HIGHEST VOLUME	
1	1	1	1
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4	4	4	4
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NEWMOBILE Aug 15 1987 2:34 PM

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY REUTERS FINANCE

هذه امة العدل

Gold prices ease

New inflation worries hit stocks

LONDON, Aug. 15. (Reuters): Stocks in both New York and London retreated sharply today partly because of new worries about inflation and higher interest rates.

The dollar was little changed from the end of last week ahead of US June trade figures due tomorrow.

Wall Street stocks eased after other figures showing that US industrial output rose a stronger-than-expected eighth of one per cent in July.

That reinforced a view that the US economy is still expanding briskly enough to warrant concern about inflation and possibly higher interest rates to pinch off spending.

Down

At midday in New York the Dow Jones industrial average was down 17.43 points at 2,020.09. Dealers said trading was thin ahead of Tuesday's trade figures with few buyers to absorb sell orders.

London's FTSE index of 100 blue chips closed down 26.6 at 1,181.8, its lowest since June 2. The market was depressed by fears that British bank interest rates may have to rise from the present 11 per cent to cool a

fevered consumer spending boom.

The government announced that sales in British shops rose two per cent to a record in July. Other figures showed a decline in output from Britain's own factories in June.

Boom

The consumer boom was fuelled by tax cuts earlier this year and by easy credit. It threatens both higher inflation and, as imports rise, a burgeoning trade gap.

The combination of a surge in UK retail sales for July and a fall in UK June industrial output fuelled concern about inflationary pressure in the British economy and pushed shares lower today, dealers said.

Dealers said selling pressure today was fairly light, but noted the UK banking authorities were in a difficult position regarding interest rate policy. While higher interest rates could dampen consumer demand, they could also increase costs to producers and impede industrial expansion.

Today's data showed July retail sales rose a provisional seasonally adjusted two per cent in July after being unchanged in June. The July figure was well

above most market forecasts, centred on an increase of around 0.7 per cent.

UK industrial output fell a provisional seasonally adjusted 0.85 per cent in June after an upward revised 0.94 per cent rise in May.

But dealers warned about reading too much into one month's statistics. Market analysts Jerry Evans at County Natwest said "I wouldn't put too much emphasis on today's industrial production figures, there's been strong growth over the past three months."

Dealers

UK money markets rates showed the key three month interbank sterling rate up 1/8 point to 11-3/8 1/4 per cent. Money dealers said the rise was caused by today's economic figures, which underlined concern about rising UK inflation pressures.

Tomorrow brings US merchandise trade figures for June, expected by some forecasters to show a deficit of around \$11 billion against a deficit of 10.93 billion in May.

Any figures substantially above expectations could push Wall Street shares down sharply on renewed inflation worries, and this would have a severe knock

on effect here, dealers said.

One dealer said, "if the (US) deficit is over \$12 billion, Wall Street will fall out of bed and we'll be testing 1,800 on the Footsie (FTSE index) again — the next resistance level (below that) looks to be around 1,765."

Until recently, chartists have been saying the lower end of the current FTSE 100 trading range is around 1,810 points and the upper end of the range anything up to around 1,900 points.

Trend

Today's early trend was distorted by a large number of ex-dividend quotations. These included Commercial Union, down 14p to 355, ICI off 29p to 1,003, Grand Met 7p lower at 504, Redland down 17p to 418 and Rank Organisation off 9p to 703.

Lower

British Petroleum was down 12p to 247, trading stripped of the recent 5p dividend. In other oil shares, Enterprise was down 18p to 465 and Burmah 16p lower at 513 as explorers lost favour.

Continuing bid speculation helped Cadbury-Schweppes hold out against the general trend with a 3p rise to 378. There

are currently a number of rumours in the market concerning possible bids by overseas confectioners and soft drinks bottlers.

Scottish and Newcastle also defied the market trend on bid rumour, rising 11p to 369. Dealers said persistent speculation that 9.33 per cent shareholder Elders IXL of Australia might make a bid has been boosting Scottish shares for some time.

The dollar closed in Europe worth 1.8822 marks and 133.25 yen, little changed from Friday's 1.8815 and 133.23.

Currency dealers said the dollar was marking time ahead of tomorrow's US trade figures. A deficit much bigger than May's \$10.9 billion would be negative for the dollar. Good figures could send it back to 19-month highs of around 1.92 marks which it touched in a powerful rally last week.

High US interest rates, raised to counter inflation, make many dollar assets an attractive buy.

Gold closed the London trading day easier at \$431.05 an ounce. Oil prices were slightly weaker around \$14.90 for a barrel of typical North Sea crude.

UK ready to take action to keep inflation under control

LONDON, Aug. 15. (AP): Just a few months ago, Britain's economic "disease" of rampant inflation, sky-high interest rates and persistent unemployment was pronounced cured by just about everyone except the Conservative government's staunchest critics.

Today, the economy is suffering something of a relapse, exhibiting that old familiar symptom, higher inflation. The government admits it is troubling.

In addition, a hike in interest rates and a sharp widening of the trade deficit are worrying economists. Unemployment is down, but there are disputes over the amount of the decline and what employment policy the government should pursue.

Ironically, the cause of the inflation is the economy's new vigorous health.

The peak came in March when the Treasury's top official, Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson, announced the first surplus budget in nearly 20 years and slashed the top income tax rate to 40 per cent from 60 per cent.

Spending

Since then, attention has turned instead to Britain's annual inflation rate, which, fed by strong consumer spending, has jumped from 3.5 per cent to 4.6 per cent in June. In his budget speech, Lawson had forecast an inflation rate of 4 per cent by the

end of the year. To combat higher inflation — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's No. 1 economic priority — the government has pushed interest rates up three percentage points since early June.

Seeking to curb consumer spending, which economists say should grow about 6 per cent in 1988, the Bank of England six times signalled half-point increases in the commercial banks' base lending rate. The benchmark rate went from a 10-year low of 7.5 per cent to 10.5 per cent by late July.

"Whatever action is necessary to keep inflation under control, this government will take," Lawson told members of Parliament recently, characterising the pickup as "modest but unacceptable."

Deficit

Strength in the dollar gave the government room to raise interest rates without pushing the British pound dangerously high. But the pound, which has been trading at about 3.20 West German marks, remains well above a rate of 3 marks which the government long had protected.

The pound broke through that ceiling in March, raising concerns that Britain's export competitiveness might be hurt. Indeed, the trade deficit is much worse than Lawson had forecast.

For the past six months of 1988, Britain had a current

account deficit of £5.6 billion (\$9.6 billion), compared with a £1.6 billion (\$2.6 billion) deficit in all of 1987. The current account includes such "invisible" trade as services and overseas investment earnings.

In his budget speech, Lawson had forecast a trade deficit of £4 billion (\$7 billion) for all of 1988. "Things have deteriorated," said Ian Harwood, an economist at the London investment firm Warburg Securities. "The major part of the reason for the deterioration has been the way the economy has been growing so much faster than expected."

David Owen, an economist with the London investment firm Kleinwort Greaveson Ltd., said: "At the moment, domestic demand is just growing too quickly for its own good."

The latest survey conducted by the polling organisation Market and Opinion Research International, showed that in July, for the first time since February, 1987, more people thought the state of the economy would get worse rather than better over the next year.

Policy

Economists expect Britain's gross domestic product — its total output of goods and services — to grow between 3.5 per cent and 4 per cent this year, faster than the 3 per cent forecast by Lawson in March. This follows growth of 4.4 per cent in 1987.

On top of the troubling symptoms, there have been recurrent reports of a rift between Mrs Thatcher and Lawson over currency exchange policy.

These have been fuelled by the pound's rise and the government's negotiations with Thatcher's former economic advisor, Sir Alan Walters, for him to return to her Downing Street office next year.

GIC keen to invest more in potential projects

RIYADH, Aug. 15. (KUNA): The Gulf Investment Corporation has been committed to invest in ten projects in 1987 involving financial requirements totalling nearly \$800 million, said the corporation's latest annual report for the year.

In addition, the report said another 33 projects are currently under active consideration.

Since its inception, the Gulf Investment Corporation has undertaken the evaluation of 91 potential projects in member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council.

The GIC is owned equally by governments of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

Strength

Its prime tasks are to develop the GCC states' economic strength through the diversification and expansion of their economic and industrial resources.

According to the report, as of December 31, 1987, the corporation's total assets were \$1,560 million as compared to \$1,311 million at the end of 1986.

Investments in securities reached a total of \$782 million and placements with banks were 738 millions. Despite the difficult conditions prevailing in the world financial markets during 1987, and the stock market crash, the report indicated that net income of the corporation for the period ending December 31, 1987, was \$42.4 million. This represents a return of eight per cent on paid up capital. The general assembly decided to distribute a dividend of seven per cent on paid up capital.

Peace prospects will help strengthen prices

OPEC could solve thorny quota problem

NICOSIA, Cyprus. (AP): OPEC chairman Rihwan Lukman is optimistic that the oil organisation's major problems — persuading Iraq to accept a production quota and the UAE to stick to its quota — can be solved, an oil industry newsletter said today.

Lukman, Nigeria's Minister, said in an interview with Ian Seymour, editor of the Middle East Economic Survey, that solving the thorny quota problem would cut output by OPEC's 13 member states by up to 1 million barrels of oil per day.

Production

That in turn would strengthen prices on the world oil market around the organisation's benchmark level of \$18 a barrel, the weekly survey reported. Current market prices are around the level of \$14-15 a barrel.

Iraq is a member of the Organ-

isation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, but has refused to accept a production quota aimed at boosting prices unless it was equal to that of Iran, its enemy in the nearly 8-year-old Gulf war.

Iraq, driving to boost its production capacity to revive its war-battered economy, currently is producing an estimated 3 million barrels a day. Iran's quota is 2.36 million barrels a day.

Lukman said he hoped the ceasefire in the Gulf war will aid OPEC efforts to curb the Organisation's overall production level and stabilise the world oil market.

Indonesia's Oil Minister, Subroto, OPEC's secretary-general, is scheduled to visit Iran and Iraq soon in a renewed effort to re-integrate Iraq into the OPEC quota system, "probably on the basis of quota parity with Iran," MEES noted.

They would slice some 600,000 barrels a day from Iraq's output.

Lukman agreed that as events move toward a ceasefire and peace settlement, Iran will be more flexible about agreeing to Iraq having a quota equal to its own.

Overproduction

"I think they are sufficiently pragmatic to see the advantage of having Iraq in the quota fold because anything that serves to reduce Iraqi overproduction will help all around and will benefit everybody, including Iran," Lukman said.

"Maybe they will see the point of that if they do not allow political considerations to outweigh the economic advantages."

The UAE, which last June formally rejected its OPEC quota of 948,000 barrels a day, is currently producing an estimated 500,000

barrels a day over its ceiling. Lukman, interviewed after the OPEC price committee meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, Aug. 3, said he expected the UAE "to do something" to cut its production.

He noted: "How much and to what extent we don't know."

Efforts

But he stressed that Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the UAE President, has assured Subroto that his country "supports OPEC efforts to stabilise the oil market."

"Judging from the way Sheikh Zayed spoke, we expect they will do something. Even if it were to reduce to, say, 1.2 million barrels a day, it would help."

He added: "We are agreed that these are temporary production ceilings in order to solve temporary problems and the possibility of permanent quotas will be

addressed later on.

"Such an assurance coming from the head of state himself is surely a positive sign that they are prepared to exercise restraint as regards production."

Realistic

The UAE has said that 1.5 million barrels a day was a more realistic quota for the seven-state Gulf federation.

Lukman admitted "it would be foolhardy not to worry about" the UAE action.

"If they ... get away with it, it will open up a Pandora's box among the other member countries. The agreement states that if any one country violates the agreement, then others should be free to do the same," he stressed.

OPEC's overall quota, excluding Iraq, is pegged at 15.06 million barrels a day. But Lukman estimated that production is currently running at 18.3-18.5 million barrels a day.

Oil prices drift lower

LONDON, Aug. 15. (Reuters): Crude oil fell by up to 35 cents a barrel on world spot markets in lacklustre business today, traders said.

The drift downwards took prices back to levels last seen a week ago just before a surge which preceded the announcement of a planned ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

Towards the close of European trading, North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded international crude, was quoted around \$14.75 a barrel against \$15.10 at the same time on Friday.

Jumped

The markets tended to shrug off what little news there was, traders said.

Prices had jumped 50 to 70 cents a barrel on August 8 on expectations that UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar would announce a ceasefire in the eight-year Gulf war.

THE tenders summarised below are invited by the Central Tenders Committee on behalf of Government Ministries and other concerned authorities. The relevant documents may be obtained from the Office of the Central Tenders Committee during office hours against payment of non-refundable fees as shown therein. Unless otherwise stipulated all relevant offers shall remain valid for a period of 90 days with effect from the closing date.

Tender No. 805/89
Tender Internal No.: 63/88
Concerned Party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.
Requirements: Supply of Freon Gas 12.

Relevant Fee: KD 20/-
Initial Guarantee: 2-1/2% of Offer Value
Closing Date: 12 noon, Sunday, 25.9.1988

Tender No. 2791D
Tender Internal No.: 76/88
Concerned Party: Kuwait Oil Company

Requirements: Ball Valves and Pig Launchers
Relevant Fee: KD. 20/-
Initial Guarantee: 2% of Offer Value
Closing Date: 12 noon, Sunday, 25.9.1988

Tender No. 2792D
Tender Internal No.: 75/88
Concerned Party: Kuwait Oil Company

Requirements: Pig Launchers, Flanges and Pipe Fittings.
Relevant Fee: KD. 30/-
Initial Guarantee: 2% of Offer Value
Closing Date: 12 noon, Sunday, 25.9.1988

Tender No. MEW/22/26-88/89
Tender Internal No.: 64/88
Concerned Party: Ministry of Electricity & Water

Requirements: Construction, Completion and Maintenance Works at Southern Zoor Power & Water Station.
Relevant Fee: KD. 20/-

Foreign countries' claims rejected

No change in US trade policy, says Yeutter

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15. (Reuters): US Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said yesterday that America's trading partners should fear the new trade bill only if their policies injured United States interests.

He rejected claims by some foreign countries, including those in Western Europe and the Far East, that the bill, to be signed shortly by President Reagan, was a change in US trade policy and was protectionist.

Action

Yeutter told a news conference at the Foreign Press Centre that the bill passed recently did not alter the direction of Reagan's trade policy but rather reaffirmed his market-opening efforts of the past three years.

He said the president could take protective action under current law, but he hasn't and

won't, and he did not think Reagan's White House successor, Republican or Democratic, would become protectionist.

Yeutter said, however, the United States would become more aggressive under the bill in pressing for free trade.

Impact

The measure gives the administration new powers to try to open closed foreign markets under threat of retaliation and to protect domestic firms from unfair foreign trade practices.

Yeutter said: "If trading partners around the world do the right thing in their own conduct of trade policy, they have nothing to worry about."

"Only if our trading partners stray in such a way to have an adverse impact on American interests that they need to have any pre-occupation with the con-

tent of the legislation," he added. Yeutter said that while the bill paved the way for US action to end unfair trade, the United States remained committed to strengthening the global trading organisation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

He noted the bill renewed US authority to negotiate new agreements under GATT, but added if the current round of GATT talks to liberalise trade failed, the United States would try to liberalise trade on a bilateral basis.

Realities

Yeutter declined to discuss any effect the trade bill might have on currency exchange rates, saying exchange rates were Treasury Secretary's field.

But he repeated Baker's view

that the rates should shift if they did not reflect the underlying economic realities between two trading nations.

The administration has been pressing newly industrialising Asian nations to end the link their money has with the dollar, which gives them an advantage in trade with the United States.

Yeutter, echoing the views of other trade specialists and economists, also said he did not think the new trade bill, first introduced in Congress in 1985 as a way to cut the massive US trade deficit, would do much to cut the deficit.

The deficit hit a record \$170 billion last year, but has been falling slightly in recent months. Yeutter said the deficit was due chiefly to many long-range economic factors, including rates and industrial competitiveness.

The names and designations of their representatives at least two days prior to the meeting.

Tender No. MEW/22/215-88/88

Concerned party: Ministry of Electricity & Water
Requirements: Cleaning works of several water pumping stations at various locations in Kuwait.
Relevant fee: KD 50/-
Initial guarantee: 5 per cent of offer value
Closing date: 12 noon, Sunday, 11.9.1988

A pre-tender meeting shall be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 24.8.1988 at the Water Stations Control Centre to explain works nature and relevant matters.

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2. Tazifco
3. Abdul Aziz Abdullah Al Arfaj Co.
4. Wail Al Nist & Partners Trdg Co.
5. United Shipping, Trdg. & Contg Services Co.
6. Al Hadri Trdg. & Contg Est.
7. Al Ahia Cleaning Co.
8. Al Soula Trdg Co.
9. Al Abraq Trdg Co.
10. Blue Sea Trdg Co.
11. Ibrahim Al Samhan Trdg & Contg Est.
12. National Cleaning Co.

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The Central Tenders Committee hereby announces to all companies, establishments and individuals registered at the CTC to furnish their full addresses by official letters delivered by hand to the Treasury Division, (To be continued)

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2	Zarka	Gh & Q	4747815
3	Shalimar	Barwil	4842988
6	Rashidah	Gh & Q	4747815
7	Kanika	"	"
13	Pelagos	Y.A. Algh.	474553
FH3	Atlantic Peeper	Sager Ship	2432692

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel.
15/8	Maersk Astro	Bebbehani	2412085
15/8	Bin Alrooni	UASC	4843150
15/8	Ibja	Gh & Q	4747815
15/8	Fruzanesti	Alaswan	4746018
16/8	Nikolay Shchukin	Rashed	2422026

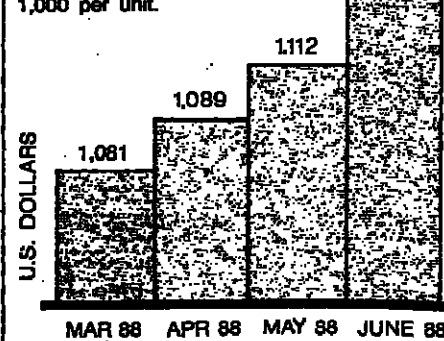
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel.
3	Uco-XVII	S.Shaheen	2432692
14	Hercules	B.B. Hassan	2440359

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel.
14/8	Sea Wind	S.Shaheen	2432692
15/8	Trade Freedom	M.A. Bahar	2433881
17/8	Dravay	M.A. Bahar	2433881
17/8	Soya Maru	R.S.M.S.	2423642
18/8	Poro Ville Du Harver	Rashed	2422026
22/8	Atropos	M.A. Bahar	2433881
22/8	YS Prosperity	Rashed	2422026
25/8	Masterlinck	"	"

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A ZOO keeper leads the Chinese giant panda Lele juggling a big ball during an open performance in Beijing Zoo. (Reuter wirephoto)



VICE-PRESIDENT George Bush confers with his campaign manager James Baker as they work on his nomination acceptance speech. The Republican National Convention started yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



THREE Soviet soldiers shelter from the sun by the side of an armoured personnel carrier shortly before leaving in a convoy of some 300 vehicles towards the Soviet border after withdrawing from Afghanistan's southwestern provinces. (Reuter wirephoto)



PRESIDENT Reagan gets a kiss from his daughter Maureen at a rally on his arrival in New Orleans for the Republican National Convention. Looking on is Maureen's husband Dennis Revell. (Reuter wirephoto)



EIGHT-MONTH-OLD Mattan Kremer was one of the seven Israelis who were injured when a petrol bomb struck their vehicle near Gaza's Al Bureij refugee camp on Sunday. (Reuter wirephoto)



ARMY supply trucks pass by two Sudanese men, walking in knee-deep flood waters on their way to Al Takamo locality northeast of Khartoum. (Reuter wirephoto)



A JAPANESE lady bows to pay tribute to over three million war dead during World War II at a memorial service at Tokyo's Nippon Budokan Hall yesterday. Japan's Emperor Hirohito (right) led the nation in a minute of silent prayer. (Reuter wirephoto)



A BURMESE youth recovering in Rangoon General Hospital from injuries sustained during a week of street mayhem. Thousands took to the streets to demand democracy and economic reforms in Burma. (Reuter wirephoto)



PHILIPPINE President Corazon Aquino's rebellious Vice-President, Salvador Laurel (right), joins opposition leader Juan Ponce Enrile in efforts to form a new opposition coalition. Laurel's brother, Jose, a former congressman (centre) is also joining the alliance. (Reuter wirephoto)



STAFF of the independent South African newspaper, the Weekly Mail, dance at a party in the black township of Alexandra, marking the start of a film festival against censorship. Officials have banned some of the films and police last week confiscated an issue of the paper. (Reuter wirephoto)

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WORLD NO. 1 THREATENS TO WALK OUT

Lendl outplays Curren for title



Lendl has words with a line judge. (Reuters wirephoto)

TORONTO, Aug 15, (Reuters): Top-ranked Ivan Lendl threatened to walk out on his match against Kevin Curren yesterday but reconsidered and then went on to win his fifth Canadian Open tennis title.

Lendl, who did not drop a set in this hardcourt warm-up for the US Open, defeated Curren 7-6 (12-10) 6-2 to take the \$119,700 winner's prize. Curren earned \$59,850.

Disputes over line calls marked the first tiebreaker. With Lendl up 5-3 in the tiebreaker, the South African-born Curren tucked a forehand passing shot in the corner for a winner to move within a point of the Czechoslovak.

Remove Lendl, who thought the ball was long, asked chair umpire Richard Ings to remove the lineswoman who made the call, but he refused.

Lendl then sent a topspin lob long to allow Curren to level it at 5-5. Curren, frustrated at a two-minute delay in which Lendl argued the earlier call, faulted on his next serve but Ings awarded Curren a let and warned Lendl about stalling.

Lendl responded by stalking to his seat and threatening to forfeit the final. "Take that (point) away or I'm not coming

back," Lendl yelled at Ings. "She's (the lineswoman) screwing up the match."

Curren won the controversial let point to go up 6-5 but could not put the set away. He squandered a second set point at 8-7, before Lendl finally won the breaker when Curren touched an easy volley into the net.

Curren, still upset, double-faulted to lose his service in the first game of the second set. Lendl broke through again to go up 5-2 before serving out to end the two-hour match.

The victory boosted Lendl's career prize earnings to \$12.7 million and ensured his world number one status for a 153rd successive week. Lendl is chasing the all-time record of 160 straight weeks at the top set by Jimmy Connors.

Curren said he was frustrated with Lendl's stalling in the 20-minute-long tiebreaker.

"When it drags on it becomes a bit of a distraction. When it re-occurs, and you're waiting and waiting it's frustrating," said Curren.

"But Ivan's a fair player — he doesn't usually argue calls unless he feels he has a case. But you do have a little leverage when you're Ivan Lendl and you're number one."

Lendl defended his behaviour.

"I just felt in a match like this there weren't any reasons for inaccurate calls. I didn't understand why the umpire didn't overrule some line calls."

The top seed said he would be in favour of using an electronic device to officiate the sport.

"I'm for it more than 100 per cent," Lendl said. "We don't have hand timing anymore in track and field, why should we have human error in tennis? If we could find a (electronic) system, I'd be happy to accept it."

Without

Lendl steamed through the tournament without dropping a set in victories over Americans Todd Witsken and Jay Berger, Australian John Frawley, American veteran Jimmy Connors and Curren.

Lendl also avenged his fourth-round loss to Curren in the third round of the 1986 player's and broke a two-match losing streak in Nabisco Grand Prix tournaments to the Austin, Texas, resident.

Curren, who lost the 1985 Wimbledon final to Boris Becker of West Germany, got a big break on the first day of the tournament when the third-seeded Becker withdrew with injured feet and was replaced by "lucky loser" Dan Cassidy.



Evert returns a low volley. (Reuters wirephoto)

Evert beats Sabatini for 156th tennis title

LOS ANGELES, Aug 15, (Reuters): Top-seeded Chris Evert wore down a battle-weary Gabriela Sabatini in three sets in the final of the \$300,000 Los Angeles women's tennis tournament yesterday.

Evert, playing in her first tournament since her recent marriage, beat the Argentine teenager 2-6 6-1 6-1 to win a \$60,000 first prize for her 156th career title.

Toughest

Evert took advantage of Sabatini's fatigue following her two-hour 40-minute semifinal victory on Saturday night against American Zina Garrison.

The 33-year-old Evert, who had not lost a set in four tournament matches this week, said Sabatini was her toughest opponent because it takes time to adjust to her style of play.

"There is no other Gabriela Sabatini on the tour. There's no one for you to play to prepare for all the topspin. I think once I got my confidence going I was fine," said Evert.

Sabatini, 18, who had beaten Evert the last time they played in

March, said she was tired and stiff from her marathon match against Garrison.

"I got a little tired and had pains in my legs from last night. I tried to come back in the third set, but I was too tired. Maybe I'll be in a little better shape, I could have won the match," said Sabatini, who earned \$24,000.

The match's end was delayed when an object containing yellow paint was thrown onto Sabatini's side of the court with Evert holding match point in the seventh game of the third set.

Following a 15-minute delay to clean the court and to allow the players to warm-up, Evert won it on her third match point when Sabatini netted a backhand.

Topsin

Evert dropped the first four games of the match as Sabatini used her topspin to outplay the veteran. But Evert managed to come back to 2-5 and held off four set points before losing the first set.

From then on it was all Evert, as the American bore down with her consistent groundstrokes.

Vikings tame Bears

GOTEBORG, Sweden, Aug 15, (AP): The Minnesota Vikings made it a perfect homecoming to the land of the historical Vikings yesterday, beating the Chicago Bears 28-21 in the first National Football League exhibition game on the European continent.

Playing on natural grass at Ullevi stadium, named for the god of Viking, the Vikings got the winning touchdown 1:27 into the fourth quarter on Wade Wilson's 4-yard touchdown pass to Reggie Ward.

Extra

Minnesota, starting Tommy Kramer at quarterback, scored on its first drive, at 6:04 in the opening quarter, when running back D.J. Dozier beat the Bears' defence from 1 yard. Chuck Nelson converted the extra point.

Running back Neil Anderson rushed 19 yards for the first Chicago touchdown with 3:34 left in the opening quarter and Kevin Butler's extra point made it 7-7.

Wide receiver Anthony Carter provided one of the prettiest plays, scoring on a 73-yard touch-

down reception with 7:48 left in the second quarter that put the Vikings ahead again. Nelson again converted it for a 14-7 lead.

Jim McMahon, the Bears' starting quarterback, was replaced by his backup Mike Tomczak in the second quarter after being sacked by Keith Millard.

Tommy Kramer started for the Vikings and was replaced by Wilson in the second quarter. Rich Gannon also played at quarterback for the Vikings.

The Bears tied it again with 1:56 left of the first half after Tomczak completed a 21-yarder to Dennis Gentry. Kevin Butler kicked the extra point.

Wilson threw a 321-yard pass to Hassan Jones with 7:36 remaining in the third quarter and Barry Belfi converted it for a 21-14 Vikings lead.

With 1:51 to go in the next to last quarter, the Bears tied it for the last time of the game as Brad Muster ran a 1-yard touchdown on a fourth down and goal situation. Tim Lasher, who played for the Bears during the strike last season, converted the extra point.

Elliott posts Tour victory by 18 seconds

LONDON, Aug 15, (AP): Britain's Malcolm Elliott won the Tour of Britain by 18 seconds after the sixth and final stage of the 660-mile (1,060-kilometre) bicycling race yesterday.

Second in the six-day event was last year's winner, Joey McLaughlin, also of Britain, while Sean Kelly of Ireland, who tops the world rankings, came in third.

The final stage over a 62-mile (100-kilometre) circuit in the central London district of Westminster was won by Dutchman Jacques Hanegraaf in 2 hours, 26 minutes and 55 seconds.

Elliott's victory was similar to his 1987 win in the two-week round Britain Milk Race. But although he again led from start to finish, he said he rated the Tour race much harder.

Coast

"We worked as hard in these six days as we did for the whole two weeks of the Milk race," said Elliott, who was happy to coast home in 18th place in the final stage to complete the race in a total time of 30 hours, 35 minutes and 37 seconds.

"My teammates worked like slaves to keep me in the lead, particularly world champion Stephen Roche. I hope that I have the opportunity soon to work just as hard for his success," Elliott said.

Miesque

defeats Warning by a length

DEAUVILLE, France, Aug 15, (Reuters): Miesque gained perhaps the finest victory of her scintillating career when she beat Warning by a length in the Prix du Haras de Fresnay-le-Buffard (formerly Prix Jacques le Marois) yesterday.

Jockey Freddy Head said of the winner, for whom this was a ninth Group One success: "I have never known her so brilliant."

Intimidate made the running but a furlong from home in the straight mile (1,600 metres) contest the English Sussex Stakes winner Warning ranged by alongside to go a neck ahead.

Time

Warning's rider Pat Eddery said: "We were going so well at the time that I could not believe anything could come and beat us."

But that was just what Miesque did as she surged through on the outside to take the lead 150 metres out before easing up close to home.

The winner, who is owned by Stavros Niarchos, will have just two more races. She will go for the Prix du Moulin de Longchamp on September 4 followed by the Breeders' Cup Mile at Churchill Downs in Kentucky in November, both of which she won last year.

World record

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Aug 15, (AP): A Yugoslav has set a world record in long-distance swimming, the national news agency Tanjug reported yesterday.

The report said Jozsef Tanko swam non-stop 112 kilometres (69 miles), improving his former world record of 108 kilometres.

Legend-maker Ferrari dies at 90

MODENA, Italy, Aug 15, (Reuters): Enzo Ferrari, whose death was announced today, conjured up one image alone — the legendary flame-red racing cars he created and which became a by-word for success, elegance and breathtaking speed.

A stylish yet reclusive figure, he dwarfed the Italian motor racing scene with a career that saw his world-famous Formula One cars reap nine World Championships — a feat unmatched by any other stable.

A former racing driver who started to make cars under his own name in 1943 at a small factory at Maranello, south of Modena in northern Italy, Ferrari once said: "My real passion was never to drive cars but to create them."

Those cars, carrying the distinctive prancing horse motif, are a source of deep national pride in Italy.

After more than 30 years of producing Formula One winners, the "Magician of Maranello" still put in a regular working day and always kept a close eye on the day-to-day running of his racing team.

Rarely

However in recent months he had been seriously ill with kidney problems and rarely left the family home here. He was 90 when he died yesterday.

Despite his passion for cars and racing, Ferrari rarely travelled outside his home town, preferring instead to follow his team's performance on television and by telephone from the shelter of his office.

"I built racing cars with the same feverish pleasure with which drug addicts sniff cocaine," he once said.

A tall, silver-haired man with a commanding, and sometimes intimidating, social manner, Ferrari never lost his uncanny ability for talent spotting despite the occasional run of poor results



Enzo Ferrari: at his work table

for his Grand Prix team over the years.

The drivers who piloted his cars read like a motor racing Hall of Fame — Alberto Ascari, Juan Fangio, Wolfgang von Trips, Mike Hawthorn, John Surtees, Niki Lauda, Michele Alboreto and Gerhard Berger.

Despite his success, Ferrari was often at the centre of bitter controversy following the many fatal accidents involving his drivers. He stood trial in 1957 on manslaughter charges but was acquitted on all counts.

A string of crashes which killed many of his best drivers in the 1950s and 1960s prompted the Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, to describe him as "a modern Saturn who continues to devour his sons."

His life was strongly affected by the loss in 1956 of his adored

son Dino, whose death from muscular dystrophy made him withdraw into a semi-reclusive private life from which he never fully re-emerged.

"Cars are the only friends I really trust," he once said.

Born on February 20, 1898 in Modena, the son of a prosperous carpenter, Ferrari developed a passionate interest in motor cars at an early age.

After seeing active service in World War One, Ferrari found work in Milan with an engineering company and in 1919 made his debut as a racing driver, finishing fourth in an Italian road race.

He raced regularly with Alfa until 1929 when he set up his own stable. Ten years later he went solo but agreed not to compete under his own name for four years. In 1943, he moved to

Maranello and laid the foundations for his post-war success.

The factory was bombed twice before World War Two ended, but in 1947 the first Ferraris appeared on the market and seven were sold in the course of the year.

In 1950, a Ferrari took part in a Grand Prix race for the first time and the next year saw the first victory at Goodwood in England with Argentine driver Jose Gonzalez at the wheel.

World Championship titles followed in 1952 and 1953, with Alberto Ascari at the wheel, setting off a fierce rivalry with Maserati until the Modena-based stable withdrew from Grand Prix racing in 1960.

But the going was not all easy. In the 1953 Argentine Grand Prix Italian Giuseppe Farina's Ferrari ploughed into the crowd, killing nine people. In 1961, Von Trips died and 13 people were killed when his Ferrari crashed during the Italian Grand Prix.

In 1965, as a result of increasing financial difficulties, Ferrari started collaborating with Fiat on a commercial sports car which eventually bore the name of his dead son — Dino.

Control

In June 1969, Fiat acquired a 60 per cent holding in the company and took control of the sports car operation, leaving the racing business to Ferrari.

Ferrari himself did not attend a Grand Prix after the death of his son and rarely travelled, even inside Italy.

In a rare interview, he described his achievements in the following terms: "I have done no more than fulfil an adolescent dream, which has enabled me to satisfy my ferocious egoism."

"To marry an idea, to live with it all your life, to stay faithful to it — this is a fine thing. It is much more difficult to remain faithful to a woman all your life — that is perhaps impossible. But an idea —," he said.

Sluman overcomes Azinger to win PGA Championship

EDMOND, Okla., Aug 15, (Reuters): Jeff Sluman, one of the smallest players on the US PGA Tour, shot the finest round of his life yesterday to win the 1988 American PGA Championship — the first victory of his career.

"I guess this proves I can play a little," the 30-year-old Sluman said after he fired a near perfect six-under-par 65 to come from three strokes back and beat Paul Azinger by three shots.

"It was one of those days when everything worked well," said the 1.70-metre Sluman, who grew up in northern New York state playing golf only three months a year.

Shoots

"That has to be one of the great final rounds in history," said Azinger, who was not disappointed with his second place finish even though he could do no better than match par 71 on the Oak Tree Golf Club's 7,015-yard course.

"This (result) won't nag me," said third-round leader Azinger, who also finished second in last year's British Open. "When someone shoots a 65 there is nothing you can do."

Sluman, whose best previous finish was a playoff loss to Briton Sandy Lyle in last year's US tournament players championship, propelled himself into the lead with an eagle and two birdies on the front nine.

"That got everything into motion," Sluman said of his

eagle on the 590-yard fifth hole, where his 100-yard sand wedge rolled into the hole for a three.

"Any time you can hole out a shot like that does wonders for your confidence," added Sluman, who collected \$160,000 for his victory.

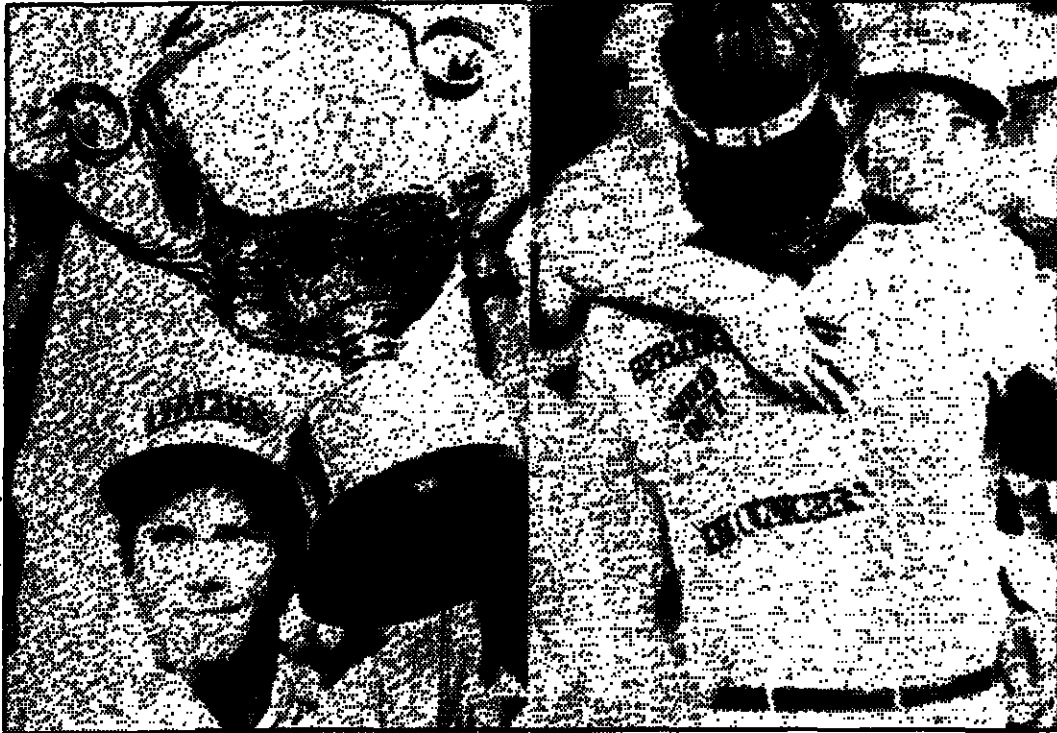
It also did wonders for Sluman's game. He went on to make four more birdies, to go with one on the second hole, and only faltered on the 149-yard 13th hole, where he missed the green and took three to get down. "I just wanted to go out and play today the way I know I can," said Sluman, who attended Florida State University, where he could not even make the golf team in his final year.

"Winning your first tournament is special but winning a major — especially with this field on this golf course — proves I can play," said Sluman, whose best previous finish this year was third in the Greater Greensboro Open in April.

Yesterday's final was never more than a two-way contest between Sluman and Azinger, who was the US Player of the Year last year when he won three tournaments and \$822,000.

Fellow-American Dave Rummells started the day one behind Azinger and two ahead of Sluman, but he opened with a pair of bogeys and was never a factor.

Nick Faldo of Britain, who won last year's British Open



Sluman lifts the trophy and later gets a hug from his caddy. (Reuters wirephoto)

when Azinger bogeyed the final two holes, made a run for the lead with birdies on the fifth and sixth holes. But he bogeyed the seventh and never got closer than four shots from the lead.

Faldo, who carded 18 pars when he beat Azinger at Muirfield last year, had a surprising rollercoaster round. Three times

he followed a birdie with a bogey and wound up at level par 71.

He bogeyed the last two holes to allow Tommy Nakajima of Japan, who shot an impressive 67, to slip past him for sole possession of third place — his best finish in a major tournament.

Faldo, who was second in this year's US Open, losing a playoff

to Curtis Strange, and third in the British Open, finished in a tie for fourth place with American Tom Kite, who also closed with a 67.

Rummells stumbled to a four-over 75 to finish at 280 along with first-round leader Bob Gilder, who closed with a three-under 68.

American Dan Pohl, who had an extremely steady tournament, finished alone at 281 after matching par.

Greg Norman of Australia, who is known for his spectacular Sunday performances, could do no better than level par and he ended the championship at 282.

He was joined by Americans Raymond Floyd, a two-time winner of this event, Mark O'Meara, Payne Stewart, Steve Jones and Kenny Knox.

Joined

Craig Stadler, the 1982 US Masters champion, also carded a 67, but it was only good enough for a 283 total. He was joined by fellow-American John Mahaffey, who matched par.

Australian David Graham and Mark McNulty of Zimbabwe were among a large group at level par.

Strange carded a 69, his first sub-par round of the championship, to finish among those at 286 along with Australian Steve Elkington, who also shot 69.

Defending champion Larry Nelson posted a 70 to join a big group at 287 that included Isao Aoki of Japan, who came in with a 73.

Bob Tway, the 1986 winner of this event, who calls this is home course, shot a surprising 77 to finish at 289.

He was joined by Denis Watson of Zimbabwe, who turned in a closing 70.

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Tigers end Red Sox' home-win streak at 24

BOSTON, Aug 15, (Reuters): The extraordinary home winning streak of the Boston Red Sox ended with a crash yesterday as the Detroit Tigers clobbered the local heroes by a gaudy 18-0 count at Fenway Park.

The defeat halted a string of 24 consecutive wins by the Red Sox in front of the Fenway faithful that stretched back to June 25.

Boston, holders of the American League record, fell short of eclipsing the Major League mark of 26 straight home successes achieved by the New York Giants of the National League in 1916.

Detroit, who were clobbered 16-4 by the Red Sox on Saturday, widened their lead in the East Division to 3-1/2 games over Boston.

Meanwhile, Luis Aquino hopes the Toronto Blue Jays are impressed.

The Rookie right-hander, formerly in the Blue Jays' organisation, pitched a six-hitter for his first Major-League shutout yesterday to lead the Kansas City Royals to a 6-0 victory.

"They (the Blue Jays) put me in the bullpen in triple-A and I just wanted to go out there and show them that I can pitch here," said Aquino, obtained in a trade with the Blue Jays in July, 1987.

Aquino, who struck out four and walked three, was especially pleased about pitching his first complete game in the majors.

The Indians' Greg Swindell won for just the third time in his last 13 decisions and Brook Jacoby homered as Cleveland won despite only for his against Texas starter Bobby Witt. Swindell, 13-11, allowed six hits, struck out five and walked two in 7-1/2 innings.

For the Yankees, Jack Clark's two-run single broke a fifth-inning tie and New York added five more runs in the seventh to beat Minnesota.

Mickey Teitlebaum, Eddie Murray and Cal Ripken homered to lead a 16-hit attack as Baltimore held on to beat Milwaukee.

California ended Oakland's six-game winning streak as Tony Armas went 4-for-5 with two home runs, including a tie-breaking shot in the seventh inning.

Seattle broke open its game against the White Sox with five runs in the bottom of the second against Chicago starter Bill Long, 4-8, who has lost four straight. Mike Moore pitched a four-hitter and Seattle backed him with four homers to snap a four-game losing streak.

The Montreal Expos said hello to the National League East race this weekend and may have said goodbye just as quickly.

Montreal beat the first-place Mets on Friday and Saturday, closing to within 4-1/2 games of the lead, and looked to be on their way to another victory when they took a 3-0 lead in the top of the fourth inning of the first game of yesterday's doubleheader.

But the Mets rallied to win the opener 4-3, took the second game 4-2 and dropped the Expos back into third place, 6-1/2 games behind New York and exactly where they were before Friday night's series opener.

"We're no better or worse than we were three days ago — that bothers me," Expos manager Buck Rodgers said.

"We're no better for worse than we were three days ago — and that bothers me," Expos manager Buck Rodgers said.

"It seems like a waste now that we won those first two games," said Neil Heaton, the losing pitcher in the first game. "It's disappointing but we've battled back from disappointments before."

New York continues to take moderate leads and then go into losing streaks. The Mets led by 7-1/2 games on June 23 before Pittsburgh pulled to within a half-game on July 22. New York took six of eight from the Pirates to build the lead back to 6-1/2 games, then lost four of five to Chicago and Montreal before yesterday's sweep.

Bob Melvin hit a three-run homer, Brett Butler hit a two-run homer and Mike Aldrete had four of the Giants' 20 hits, which equalled their season high.

Results

American League		
Detroit	18	Boston 6
Cleveland	3	Texas 0
New York	9	Minnesota 6
Kansas City	6	Toronto 0
Baltimore	11	Milwaukee 9
California	6	Oakland 4
Seattle	11	Chicago 0

National League		
1-New York	4	Montreal 3
2-New York	4	Montreal 2
Pittsburgh	9	Philadelphia 8
Cincinnati	2	Atlanta 0
Chicago	8	St Louis 3
San Diego	6	Houston 1
San Francisco	15	Los Angeles 4

SPORTS

Kuwait to host pan-Islamic football tourney

KUWAIT is to host a football tournament for all the members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) in March next year.

Kuwait, the current chairman of the OIC, is said to have initiated the idea for this tournament and invited the football associations of all the 49 OIC members to take part in the championship.

It has been learnt that 39 Islamic countries have confirmed their participation in the first OIC Football Tournament while the remaining 10 members have yet to accept the invitation.

Event
The tournament, the first pan-Islamic football event ever, is to be patronised by HH the Amir.

According to one report, Kuwait is to bear all the expenses of the participating teams and that KD1.5 million has been allotted for the tournament.

The organising team for the event is expected to be announced soon.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Zurich GP

ZURICH, Switzerland, Aug 15, (Reuters): World 100 metres champion Ben Johnson and Olympic champion Carl Lewis will have their long-awaited clash over the distance on Wednesday at the Zurich Grand Prix if their managers stick to their word.

Tour itinerary

WELLINGTON, Aug 15, (Reuters): New Zealand Cricket Council chairman Bob Vance said today that New Zealand's itinerary for the November tour of India was unacceptable.

US diver

TAMPA, Florida, Aug 15, (AP): Prosecutors filed alcohol-related manslaughter charges today against US Olympic diver Bruce David Kimball in connection with a traffic accident two weeks ago that killed two people and injured six.

PSV triumph

LA CORUNA, Spain, Aug 15, (AP): Reigning European champions PSV Eindhoven of Netherlands won the 43rd international Teresa Herrera soccer trophy by defeating Atletico de Madrid of Spain 3-1 last night.

Aquino arrested

LOS ANGELES, Aug 15, (AP): Super welterweight boxing champion Lupe Aquino was arrested for investigation of felony manslaughter and drunken driving after his car went off a freeway and tumbled 40 feet (12 metres) down an embankment, killing two passengers, authorities said.

LEWIS LEADS US RELAY TEAM TO VICTORY

Gray runs season's fastest 800m



Lewis: hopes to compete in four events at Olympics

HENGLO, Netherlands, Aug 15, (Reuters): Johnny Gray of the United States won the men's 800 metres in a season's best time of one minute 43.10 seconds at the Adrián Paulen Memorial international athletics event here yesterday.

Gray, pulled along for the first 400 metres by compatriot Danny Everett, easily beat Brazilian star Jose Luis Barbosa who finished second in 1:43.49.

Moving

"I am satisfied with my performance but I am saving my best times for Seoul... I just want to run consistently until then," said Gray, who will run in Brussels and Zurich before moving on to Seoul.

Dutchman Rob Druppers, who holds the indoor world record for the distance, came sixth in one minute 45.36 seconds to gain a qualification ticket for Seoul.

Sydney Marce of the United States, another of several Americans dominating this non-

Grand Prix event, comfortably won the 5,000 metres in a season's best 13 minutes 15.86 seconds.

Quadruple Olympic gold medalist Carl Lewis decided at the last moment to drop out of the 200 metres after setting the third fastest time at the Sestriere high-altitude track in Italy last Thursday.

Competing in the 4x100 metres men's relay along with Mark Witherspoon, Michael March and Joe Deloach, Lewis cruised home in characteristic style in the last leg. The quartet clocked 38.63 seconds.

Lewis, still waiting to see Seoul schedules adjusted to leave more time between the second round of the 200 metres and long jump final, said he took a relaxed attitude over the issue at the moment.

"There is still enough time," Lewis, the star attraction for an enthusiastic 20,000-strong crowd, said.

"I'm still optimistic the Olympic programme will be changed

to allow me to compete in the 100-metre, 200-metre, long jump and relay events."

It was a disappointing day for American triple jump world record holder Willie Banks, who, while winning the event with 16.81 metres, showed dissatisfaction with his performance.

Among the women, American Mary Slaney comfortably won the 1,000 metres in two minutes 34.65 seconds after leading throughout the race.

Erase

"It was good speed training that will make the 3,000 seem easy," said Slaney, hoping to get gold in Seoul for the 3,000 metres and finally erase bitter memories of her dramatic clash with Zola Budd which put her out of the contest at the Los Angeles Olympics four years ago.

"I am excited and confident." In the women's 100-metre event, Nelli Cooman of the Netherlands, the fastest woman ever for 60 metres indoors, finally got her qualifying ticket for Seoul, finishing in 11.10 seconds.

Worcestershire beat Glamorgan

LONDON, Aug 15, (Reuters): Graeme Hick slammed an unbeaten 42 to help Worcestershire maintain their challenge for the Sunday League championship as they beat Glamorgan by seven wickets in a rain-affected match at Swansea.

After a first attempt to play the match had been washed out by rain, it was begun again and limited to 11 overs a side.

Put into bat, Glamorgan reached 85 for five, but then Hick hit a six and four fours to guide Worcester to victory and four valuable points with five balls to spare.

Middlesex remained two points ahead at the top of the League after beating Gloucestershire on a faster scoring rate, but they have played one more match than Worcester.

The League leaders were given a scare by Tony Wright after Gloucester had their target of 204 reduced to 173 off 34 overs following a rain delay.

Wright hit five fives in scoring 46 off only 37 deliveries to put Gloucester within sight of the target, but then fell when four

balls remaining and the visitors ended six runs short.

Mark Waugh, whose twin brother Steve has proved a prolific run-scorer for Somerset, began his county career at Essex in similar fashion by lashing a debut century as Nottinghamshire were crushed by 77 runs at Colchester.

The 23-year-old Australian, signed as an overseas replacement for Allan Border, plundered 103 from 94 balls to lead Essex to 236 for six.

Results

At Cardiff: Worcestershire beat Glamorgan by seven wickets in a match restricted to 11 overs a side. Glamorgan 81 for five innings closed. Worcestershire 85 for three in 10.1 overs (G. Hick 42 not out). Worcestershire four points.

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire beat Leicestershire by seven wickets in a match reduced to 36 overs a side. Leicestershire 109 in 35.2 overs (D. Reeve four for 17, A. Pierson three for 21). Warwickshire 110 for three in 31.1 overs. Warwickshire four points. At Hove: Lancashire beat Sussex by five wickets. Sussex 218 for five innings closed (C. Wells 85, A. Wells 51). Lancashire 219 for five in 39.4 overs (M. Watkinson 58, G. Mendis 51). Lancashire four points.



Hick: unbeaten 42

sex by five wickets. Middlesex beat Northamptonshire by eight wickets in a 20 overs-a-side match. Northamptonshire 94 for six innings closed. Hampshire 97 for two in 18.4 overs (D. Turner 47 not out). Hampshire four points.

At Colchester: Essex beat Nottinghamshire by 77 runs. Essex 236 for six innings closed (S. Waugh 103, K. Evans three for 26). Nottinghamshire 159 for nine innings closed (T. Robinson 49, F. Stephenson 41 not out, D. Topley six for 33). Essex four points.

At Chesterfield: Kent beat Derbyshire by six wickets. Derbyshire 184 for eight innings closed (P. Bowler 42, B. Roberts 40 not out, H. Alleyne three for 34). Kent 186 for four in 37.3 overs (C. Tavaré 82 not out, G. Cowdrey 50 not out). Kent four points.

At Scarborough: Somerset beat Yorkshire by two runs. Somerset 235 for six innings closed (J. Wyatt 89). Yorkshire 233 for nine innings closed (M. Moxon 68, P. Robinson 51, F. Jones three for 46). Somerset four points.

At Lord's: Middlesex beat Gloucestershire on a faster scoring rate. Middlesex 203 for eight innings closed (W. Slack 53). Gloucestershire 168 for six in 34 overs (A. Wright 46). Middlesex four points.

Mendis hits Surrey for century

LONDON, Aug 15, (Reuters): Former captain Dulip Mendis raced to a morale-boosting century as Sri Lanka settled for batting practice and a draw on the final day of their three-day match against Surrey at the Oval today.

Mendis cracked four sixes and 16 fours in his 124 from only 114 deliveries in a second innings total of 300 for six before the match was called off as a draw with 17 overs unused.

The 35-year-old Mendis, who scored 111 and 94 against England four years ago at Lord's, where they met again on August 25, brightened up an otherwise uninspiring day.

He dominated a fourth wicket partnership of 99 with opener Brendon Kuruppu, who struggled early on but reached 87 before he was bowled by occasional slow left-arm bowler Keith Medley.

Scoreboard

SRI LANKA first innings 219 (A. Samarasekera 104, M. Feltham three for 52).
SURREY first innings 242 (C. Belfrage 59 not out, K. Medley 51, G. Labrooy four for 86, A. Samarasekera three for 31).

SRI LANKA second innings (overnight 43 for no wicket).
R. Kuruppu c Medley 87
A. Silva c Stewart & Bicknell 74
A. Samarasekera c Feltham & Bicknell 104
A. Ranasinghe retired hurt 0
R. Madugalle c Stewart & Frost 22
D. Mendis b Belfrage 124
H. Thilakaratne b Medley 7
R. Ratnayake not out 15
R. Madurasinghe not out 19
Extras (b-10 w-3 nb-2) 19
Total (for six wickets declared) 300
Fall of wickets: 1-54 2-62 3-106 4-205 5-235 6-298.

Bowling: Frost 21-57-1-1, M. Bicknell 26-97-2-2, Feltham 17-44-0-4, Robinson 6-32-4, Medley 13-37-2, Belfrage 5-50-1, Stewart 1-1-0-0, D. Bicknell 1-0-1-0, Ward 1-1-0-0.

Gooch retains England captaincy

LONDON, Aug 15, (Reuters): England opener Graham Gooch has been retained as captain for next week's cricket Test against Sri Lanka at Lord's, the Test and County Cricket Board announced today.

The announcement immediately fuelled speculation that Gooch had changed his mind and would be available to captain England's tour of India this winter.

The selectors have yet to pick the captain for that tour.

India bans Test players from writing

BOMBAY, Aug 15, (Reuters): India's cricket chiefs decided yesterday to ban players from writing for newspapers during all Test series and for the following six months.

The decision by the Indian Board of Control follows last month's move by England and New Zealand to stop their cricketers also turning their hands to journalism when both play Tests in India between November and February.

Board secretary Rambir Singh

Mahendra said the board would consider dropping the ban if other countries allowed their captains to write.

Violated

Indian captain Dilip Vengsarkar was banned for six months last February after he violated a contract stopping him writing during a series against the West Indies.

West Indies captain Vivian Richards was at the time publishing a daily Test commentary in the Indian papers.

Mahendra also told reporters Indian players would have to get board permission for commercial logos on their clothes.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) last year criticised Indian and Pakistani cricketers for displaying logos on their clothing and equipment during the fourth World Cup.

The board did not discuss the implications of the possible inclusion in the England team of cricketers with South African links, Mahendra said.

Kuwait to defend Desert Challenge title

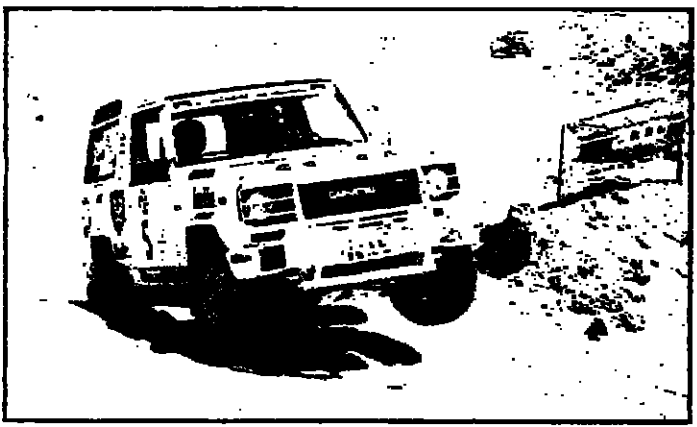
By Gail Seery

LAST December, Kuwait took its first overseas rally win since Tareq Al Wazzan won the Dubai International in 1981. The event was the BP Jeep Rally in Jordan, the third and final round of the Marlboro Desert Challenge, and veteran Tareq Al Wazzan and his co-driver Khaled Khalifa scored a decisive 30-minute victory over Tareq Alyan in their Marlboro Range Rover, while Tareq Alyan became overall Challenge champion as a result of an arguably over-generous points system.

Indeed, Kuwaiti teams had dominated the fledgling challenge: Alyan won, Wazzan was second, Ahmed Al Hilal came in third, despite participating in only two events, and bad luck forced Eid Falah back to fourth place. Fifth place was taken by Qatari Abbas Al Mousawi.

Restrict
Bahrain kicks off this year's Challenge on September 8 and 9, and is expecting a good turnout, with a minimum of around 20 crews. The organisers have decided to restrict the entry to thirty vehicles only.

Factors beyond the control of the Challenge's promoters led to the format of this year's challenge being changed, and not all drivers have been totally happy about this. Instead of deciding the challenge on a cumulative points basis as before, there are instead four distinct events, each of which will produce only one driver



Tareq Alyan (left) won last year while Tareq Al Wazzan was second.

eligible to go on to the final. The final takes the shape of a rally within a rally to be held as part of the Dubai International at the start of December. The highest placed Challenge entrant will be declared the overall Challenge winner.

Winners of the four events — in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Dubai, plus the best placed Saudi team, will win the BP2000 trophy, and \$5,000 worth of Marlboro sponsorship to cover their costs for the Dubai rally. The overall winner will take a \$10,000 prize.

Promoter Sean O'Connor stressed that the change in format is for one year only. "Next year we'll have the full Challenge again," he explained.

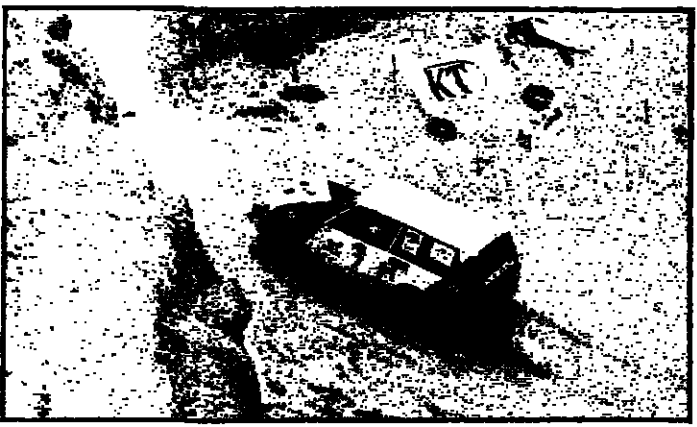
Bahrain's Clerk of the Course George Sarian is expecting a number of overseas teams to contest the event, including Kuwaitis Tareq Al Wazzan and

Eid Falah in their Range Rovers, Abbas Al Mousawi, who won the Bahrain BP Jeep rally last year, and who now returns in a works Mitsubishi Pajero, and Hamad Al Mazroui, also of Qatar, who is an experienced driver, capable of achieving a respectable result.

Subsequent

Around 15 Bahrainis are expected to take part, including Ibrahim Mattar and Ibrahim Madloun who drove in the Kuwait event last year. Spectators can also see Mamdouh Khayat from Saudi Arabia, a former group A Middle East Champion, Mohammed Al Malki, and Saeed Al Hajri's younger brother Mubarak. A second Pajero, driven by Abdullah Omar, will participate in subsequent rounds of the Challenge.

The Bahrain event will break new ground by having the first



"super special" spectator stage in the Middle East. On the first day the drivers will make two loops of the 3 km special stage, which is designed primarily to encourage spectators, and to aid TV coverage. This type of stage is a familiar component of world, and European championship events.

There will be eight stages on day one, and 12 on the second day — a total of twenty competitive sections. The rally will be longer than last year's, but many of the stages will be the same as those used then, which drivers and observers had been highly complimentary about. The stages had been challenging and had made imaginative use of the limited space available on the island.

The Dubai event is expected to consist of two six-stage legs, and to attract forty to fifty entries. The exact nature of the Kuwait

jeep rally is still uncertain, as Kuwait's Ahmed Al Hilal is still discussing a number of points with the Challenge promoters. These will need to be ironed out quickly, to enable the Kuwaiti teams, who did so well last year, to defend their dominance in the newly initiated 4x4 challenge.

Preparing

Assuming agreement can be reached, Kuwait looks like a good contender. Both Wazzan and Eid Falah have been preparing their cars for Bahrain, and Falah has had a brand new racing engine with around 350 HP fitted in his Range Rover by his Al Zayani sponsors. Either man is capable of a win there, but will also have the opportunity to clinch the remaining rounds.

One thing is certain; all drivers will be aiming for a win in Bahrain, so that their position in the final can be assured.

Wimbledon ban Jones from Charity Shield game against Liverpool



Vinny (left): suspended

LONDON, Aug 15, (Reuters): English FA Cup winners Wimbledon today banned midfielder Vinny Jones from Saturday's English Charity Shield match against League champions Liverpool after he was sent off elbowing an opponent in the face.

Jones was given his marching orders yesterday in a pre-season friendly against non-League Shanklin on the Isle of Wight.

Shanklin defender Dave Woodhouse was knocked out in the incident and had to be helped from the field.

"Vincent Jones will automatically be suspended

from the Charity Shield game against Liverpool under the club code of discipline imposed last season," Wimbledon manager Bobby Gould said in a statement.

Jones is also likely to be suspended by the FA under this season's disciplinary code, players sent off for violent conduct are automatically suspended for three matches.

Less than a fortnight ago Wimbledon were fined £5,000 sterling (\$8,500) by the FA for the second time in three months, the first after players bared their buttocks in a testimonial match and the second for a suspended fine left over from last season.

Americans will swim to most golds, says coach

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug 15, (Reuters): American swimmers will be competing next month in their first Olympics against East Europeans since 1976 and US Olympic coach Richard Quick is confident they will win most medals in Seoul.

"I won't give a specific number, but we will win more than any other country," Quick said after the US Olympic trials last weekend.

"I think we're going to have as strong an Olympic team as we've ever had."

Assured

"There's no doubt the world has caught up with American swimming," he said. "The challenge used to be to make the Olympic team because in about 90 per cent of the cases a swimmer was almost automatically assured of winning a medal. Those days are gone."

Coach Quick said he thought the Olympic results were likely to

follow the pattern of world records because "it's probably going to take a world record to win in Seoul."

Of the 26 Olympic individual events, the US have active swimmers with world records in 10 events, East Germany in five, West Germany two and Hungary two.

At the six-day US Olympic trials, three world records were set, two by David Berkoff in the 100 metres backstroke and a new 100 metres freestyle standard by Matt Biondi.

Twelve American records also fell at the University of Texas Swim Centre.

"We will probably see more records in the Olympics than we did in the trials," said Quick. "Here the kids were trying to qualify in every event they could. When they get to Seoul, for most of them, they will be in only one or two events and can really concentrate on those."

Besides Berkoff and Biondi, a leading US favourite for Olympic gold is 15-year-old Janet Evans, who dominated the women's distance events at the trials and set an American record in the 400 metres individual medley.

Bruno confident of victory

LONDON, Aug 15, (Reuters): British heavyweight Frank Bruno is confident that 30 rounds of sparring with Mike Tyson six years ago will help bring him victory over the American world champion in their title fight at London's Wembley stadium.

"He's going to get murdered — not me," Bruno said today at a press conference to launch the October 8 fight.

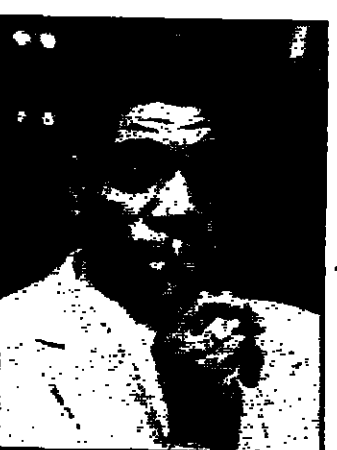
A 60,000 crowd paying \$4.5 million (\$7.6 million) is expected at the fight, with television rights boosting the total considerably.

Refused

Tyson is to get a percentage of the takings and is guaranteed \$4 million, but co-promoter Terry Lawless refused to give details of how much the British challenger would receive.

Bruno dismissed previous defeats by two other US heavyweights — James "Bonecrusher" Smith and Tim Witherspoon.

"When they beat me I was a young boy. Now I am a man with hairs on my chest and the wind is



Frank Bruno

not blowing them off," he said. "The fight is about power — and I'm one stone heavier than him."

Bruno, immaculate in a dark blue suit, dismissed criticism that he will stand no chance against the awesome power of Tyson, who demolished former champion Michael Spinks in 91

seconds in his last title defence. "I sparred 30 rounds with Tyson about six years ago when I was training in the Catskill mountains and I have wanted to fight him ever since," he said.

"Some say Tyson is a tiger, some say he is a baboon. I just think he is a human being," he told a television interviewer.

Bruno was backed up by John Morris, secretary of the British Board of Control.

"In no way is Frank a lamb to the slaughter. He will prove the most worthy of all Tyson's challengers," he said. It was not beyond the bounds of possibility that the fight would produce "the biggest upset in boxing history."

Approach

Bruno failed in a previous world title bid when he was stopped by Witherspoon in the ninth round, but he said that would not affect him in his approach to the battle with Tyson. "It's not if I win it's when I win. I'm going in there with confidence."

"There is no man who is unbeatable."

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